



REYNOLDS HISTORICAL  
GENEALOGY COLLECTION



ALLEN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY



3 1833 00084 6219









990 + Gold

THE  
*Topsfield*  
HISTORICAL  
COLLECTIONS

OF THE  
  
TOPSFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

V. 11-12  
VOL. XI

1906 - 07

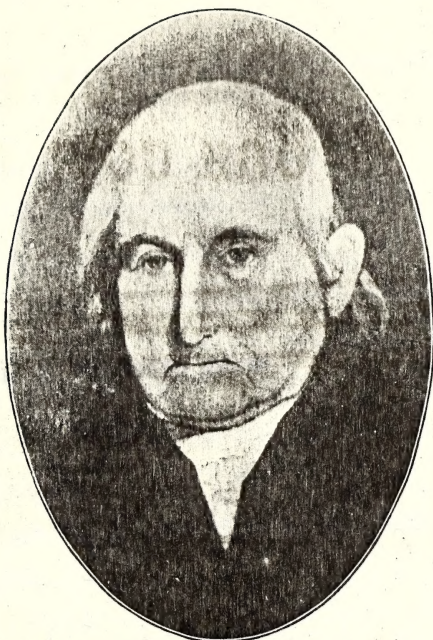
TOPSFIELD, MASS.  
Published by the Society

1906





1902746



REV. DANIEL BRECK.

1748-1845.

Ordained over the church in Topsfield, Nov.  
17, 1779; dismissed May 26, 1788.

From an oil portrait in the possession of  
Judge Charles H. Breck.

THE MERRILL PRESS

Topsheld

1845

1802760

Digitized by the Internet Archive  
in 2013

<http://archive.org/details/historicalcollev11v12tops>

# CONTENTS.

## 1194908

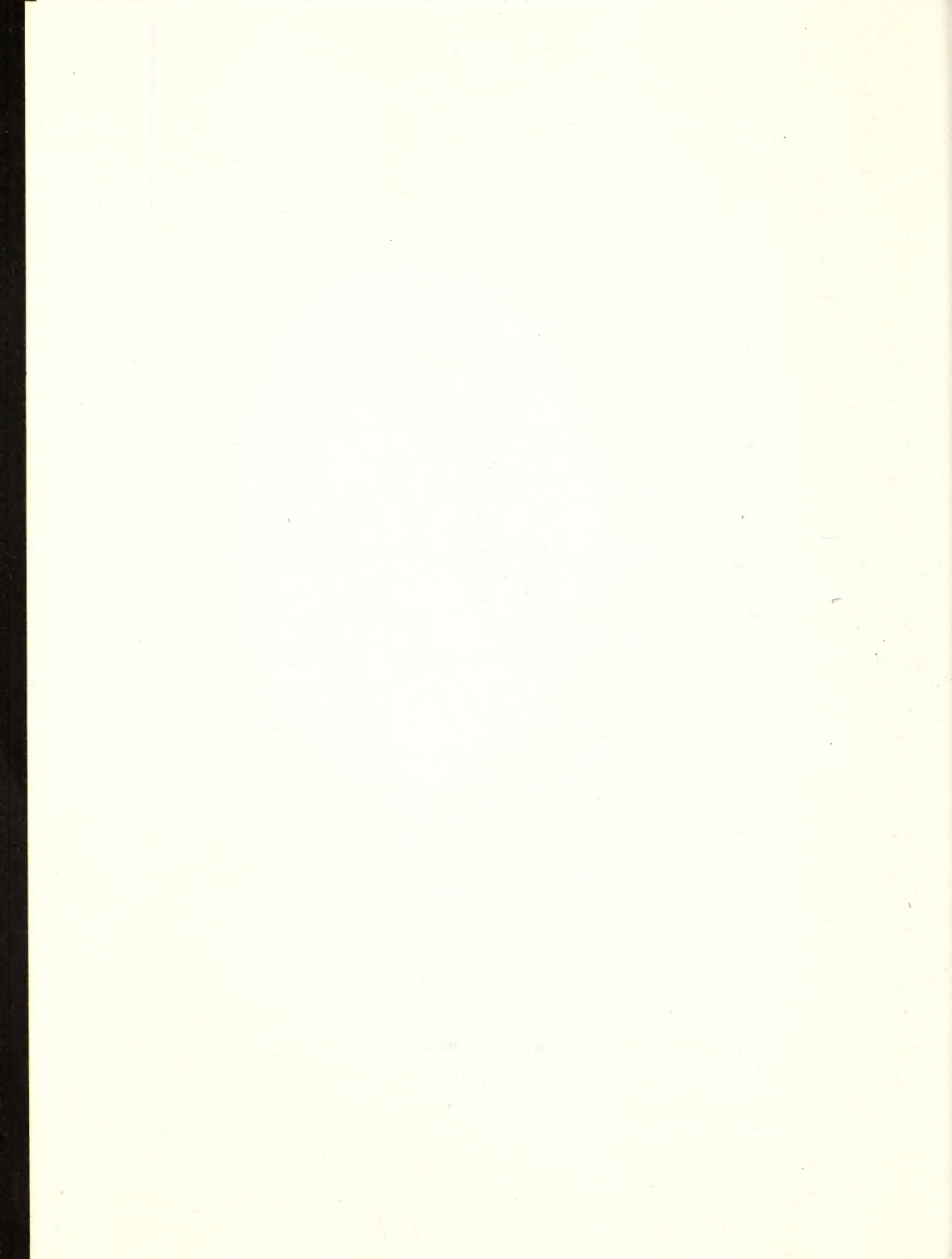
THE NEWBURYPORT AND BOSTON TUNNIFIRE, BY H. POLLARD SHE LONG.	1
THE WILDES FAMILY OF ESSEX CO., MASS., BY WALTER DAVIS, JR.	17
LETTER FROM DR. NICHOLAS CLEVELAND, 1814.	25
ESSEX REGISTRY OF DEEDS AT TOPSFIELD.	74
LETTER OF REV. NICHOLAS JORDAN, 1830.	75
LOCALTIES AND PLACE NAMES IN TOPSFIELD, BY J. WORTEN GOULD.	81
CAPT. JOHN GOULD'S PETITION IN 1734.	100
EARLY RECORDS OF THE TOWN OF TOPSFIELD, TRANSCRIBED BY H. POLLARD-SHE LONG.	101
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF NATHAN KENDALL, FOUNDER OF TOPSFIELD, MASS.	123
NECROLOGY:	
MRS. ELLEN A. (HOOD) WELCH.	150
ALBERT WEBSTER.	150
HARRIET E. TODD.	152
IRA PERLEY LONG.	158
JOHN AVERELL GOULD.	170
SARAH PERKINS DWINELL.	180
TOPSFIELD VITAL STATISTICS, 1901.	181
CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS.	184
BUILDINGS CONSTRUCTED, 1901.	184

THE MERRILL PRESS

*Topsfield*

MASS





# CONTENTS.

## 1194908

THE NEWBURYPORT AND BOSTON TURNPIKE, BY H. FOLANS-	
BEE LONG, - - - - -	I
THE WILDES FAMILY OF ESSEX CO., MASS., BY WALTER	
DAVIS, JR., - - - - -	17
LETTER FROM DR. NEHEMIAH CLEAVELAND, 1815, - -	77
ESSEX REGISTRY OF DEEDS AT TOPSFIELD, - - -	78
LETTER OF REV. JEREMIAH HOBART, 1686, - - -	79
LOCALITIES AND PLACE NAMES IN TOPSFIELD, BY J. PORTER	
GOULD, - - - - -	81
CAPT. JOHN GOULD'S PETITION IN 1694, - - -	100
EARLY RECORDS OF THE TOWN OF TOPSFIELD, TRANSCRIBED	
BY H. FOLLANSBEE LONG, - - - - -	101
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF NEHEMIAH KNEELAND, PIONEER	
OF TOPSFIELD, MAINE, - - - - -	173
NECROLOGY:	
MRS. ELLEN A. (HOOD) WELCH, - - - - -	176
ALBERT WEBSTER, - - - - -	176
HARRIET E. TODD, - - - - -	177
IRA PERLEY LONG, - - - - -	178
JOHN AVERELL GOULD, - - - - -	179
SARAH PERKINS DWINELL, - - - - -	180
TOPSFIELD VITAL STATISTICS, 1905, - - - - -	181
CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS, 1905, - - - - -	184
BUILDINGS CONSTRUCTED, 1905, - - - - -	184





## THE NEWBURYPORT AND BOSTON TURNPIKE.

BY H. FOLLANSBEE LONG.

At the beginning of the 19th century, commerce was making rapid strides in Massachusetts. Better communication between the inland towns was needed, and the first step towards a closer relation was the building of toll bridges over the large rivers, thus doing away with the slow, dangerous, and expensive system of ferries. Soon after came the demand for better roads. As the towns were not able to expend the large amounts of capital required to construct such roads, and as the cost was greater than any single individual cared to assume, a corporation for each enterprise was created by legislative authority. Frequently the "turnpikes" proved themselves to be poor investments for capital, and to the promoters and to those who contributed funds and labor, must be given credit for a great deal of courage, a large degree of public spirit, or a misplaced confidence in the soundness of their investments. Without doubt, however, some of the earlier turnpikes turned out to be paying investments, as they opened up a large part of the country not before in direct communication with the centres of trade. This probably accounts for the increase of road-building, for in less than ten years after the first turnpike was chartered (1796) forty-two companies were created and empowered to build roads in Massachusetts proper, or in Maine, then a part of the State. The construction of these roads and the ease of communication over them were such an improvement over the old "town ways," that the people not only willingly paid toll to be allowed travelling privileges, but in a great many instances

THE HISTORY OF THE  
CITY OF BOSTON  
FROM THE FIRST SETTLEMENT  
TO THE PRESENT TIME  
BY  
JOHN B. HENNING, ESQ.  
OF THE BARR

IN TWO VOLUMES.  
VOL. I.

BOSTON:  
PUBLISHED BY  
JOHN B. HENNING, ESQ.  
OF THE BARR  
AT THE SIGN OF THE  
"GOLDEN RULE,"  
CORNER OF NASSAU AND  
NORTH STREETS.  
1825.

gave assistance by grants of land and by requiring the United States mail to be carried over them.

The first turnpike corporation in Massachusetts was chartered in 1796 and was formed for the purpose of building a road from the town of Western, now Warren, to Palmer. The Act sets forth that no good highway existed and that the towns could not afford to build a proper road. The company was given the right to charge travellers, in exchange for performing a work which was apparently regarded as a public necessity. On the State records, the first seventeen turnpikes are known only by numbers, first, second, third, etc. Afterwards they were given names indicating the localities through which they passed. The books of these corporations were at all times open to the inspection of the Governor and Council, and the Legislature. The Legislature could dissolve any corporation, so formed, after twenty years, if it was shown that the income of the road had compensated the corporation for its expenditures together with twelve per cent interest. It is very doubtful if there was case where this power was exercised. The usual width of the roads was four rods or sixty-six feet. It is interesting to note that the subject of wide tires, as road improvers, was then considered, and tolls were only half as great for vehicles having tires six inches or more wide, while with tires three and one-half inches wide and carrying a load of forty-five hundred pounds a toll three times the regular sum was demanded.

In general, the phraseology of all the petitions for turnpike roads was the same, namely, the great expense of keeping ordinary roads in good repair, and the relief it would be to taxation if those who wished better roads should themselves pay the cost of building and maintaining them. But when Micajah Sawyer, William Coombs, Nicholas Pike, Arnold Welles, William Bartlett, John Pettingill, William Smith, John Codman, and James Prince petitioned the "Great and General Court" for a turnpike road to be laid out between Newburyport and Chelsea Bridge, said company to be known as the Newburyport Turnpike Corporation, they based their claim upon an entirely different reason—"the advantage of connecting our own town with





the capital of the state by an "air line"—the shortest possible route. As a matter of fact none of this road was laid out in Newburyport, but was built in the town of Newbury, but now a part of Newburyport. While the plans for its construction did not assume definite form until 1800, the subject of such a road was agitated some time before. March 8, 1803, Caleb Strong, then Governor of Massachusetts, approved the charter of the corporation. This was the first road of its kind to be chartered in eastern Massachusetts. The Salem turnpike, chartered about the same time, was the first to be opened. The critics maintained that it was a much wiser plan, to build the road from Newburyport to Salem, thus connecting with the turnpike which was to be built from there to Boston. The proposed road was to start from the head of State street, in what is now Newburyport, and run in as nearly a straight line as possible, to Chelsea Bridge. We may all agree with the words of the corporation's first president after being told of the proposed route, when he said,—“A herculean undertaking.” The engineer was instructed to point the telescope of his transit South  $24^{\circ}$  West, and to follow that course as directly as possible to Chelsea Bridge. As the road stands today, in the distance of thirty-two miles it deviates only eighty-three feet from a straight line, and most of this deviation is at the ledges in Saugus, near the Lynnfield woods, where a great deal of heavy blasting was necessitated, in order to get through at all. The cost of the road was nearly half a million dollars; far greater than any public improvement in New England up to that time. It surely was a wonderful piece of work,—“a monument,” says Caleb Cushing, “of the enterprise and perseverance of its projectors.” Even at the time when this road was in process of construction, successful experiments were being made with locomotives. Possibly the builders of railroads, one hundred years from now, when they are superseded by airships, may be looked upon in much the same way that we now look upon the promoters of the old turnpikes.

The stock of the corporation consisted of one thousand shares, more than half of which, or five hundred and ninety-

THE  
[Faint, illegible text follows, appearing to be a list or index of names and titles, possibly related to a library or collection. The text is too faded to transcribe accurately.]

eight shares, was held in Boston. Newburyport men held two hundred and ten shares, James Prince having ninety-eight and Captain Israel Young, thirty shares while Nicolas Pike, William Bartlett, Jonathan Gage, and Micajah Sawyer held ten shares each. "Lord" Timothy Dexter, "the Wonder of the East," strange to say was not interested in this enterprise. Perhaps his holdings in the Essex Merrimack Bridge, which was more than one-half of the original number of shares, satisfied his desires in this line of public improvement. One hundred and forty shares of the turnpike stock were held in Gloucester, nine in Danvers, seven in Cambridge, and five in York, Me. With the exception of Danvers, the citizens living in the towns through which the road was to pass took no stock in the road, either actually or metaphorically. The first meeting of the corporation was held in Boston, April 14, 1803, notification of the meeting appearing in the New England Palladium, a paper published in Boston, and also in the Newburyport Herald. On April 20, 1803, the directors met and chose the following officers:—"Judge" William Tudor, of Boston, President; Gorham Parsons and James Prince, Vice Presidents, and Enoch Sawyer, Treasurer, all of Newburyport. During the summer, the directors, with their engineer, travelled on foot three times over the entire distance. "Rocky heights, bogs, briars, thickets, and all the unpleasant obstacles of an unfrequented tract of country, rendered these pedestrian journeys slow and fatiguing." The survey required three week's time, the expense being about two hundred and fifty dollars, including five dollars paid Michael Hodge for making a plan of the road. Theophilus Parsons was paid two hundred and fifty dollars for legal services, such as drafting the papers, looking after the legislators, and influencing the Justices of the Court. The settlement of the land damages was not an easy matter for those who derided the scheme were not averse to plundering its promoters. Very few there were, whose lands they were compelled to intersect, but expressed their vexatious submission to the law which they could not control, and all demanded a triple compensation for the land they were compelled to





part with." In seventeen cases the owners of the land refused to accept the price fixed by the commissioners and appealed to a jury who awarded them twenty per cent more.

Work on the turnpike was begun August 23, 1803, on High street in Newburyport. Messrs. Prince and Young, two Newburyport men, had charge of the building of the first eleven miles, reaching from the head of State street to Peabody's mills in Topsfield. They received \$18,850. for their part of the road. Capt. Jonathan Ingersoll had charge of the next nine miles to Malden, and Gorham Parsons superintended the construction of the bridge over the Parker river. The building of the roadbed was in general given to contractors, who, in many cases, hired men from each locality for the work in their vicinity and often times these men furnished their own wheelbarrow, cart, or pick and shovel, as the case might be. Peleg Slocum of Lynn, built three and one half miles of road from Peabody's mills to Joseph Chaplin's house in Rowley, for eight thousand dollars and a hogshead of rum. The grade was not to exceed one foot in twenty and the road was to be covered with gravel ten inches deep. For building another part of the road, Richard and Ebenezer Kimball, both of Lebanon, N. H., agreed to furnish sixty men, blacksmiths, five yoke of oxen, and ten horses. They were to work as many days on the road as the Directors thought necessary, until July 1, 1805. Each man was to receive one dollar a day and board, and half a pint of West India rum. The Company itself was to furnish "two or three ox carts, and so many horse carts and wheelbarrows as are necessary." Those men not working under contract received \$1.25 per day, for ditching; a laborer with pick and shovel received 5 or 6 shillings, and \$1.57 was paid for a man, cart and oxen. Masons, carpenters and painters, employed in constructing the toll-houses, hotels and bridges, received an average of nine shillings per day. These days of course were reckoned from "sun to sun."

At one place near the Newburyport end, the road was made twenty feet high and twenty-five rods long, far above the mud of the swamp through which the road





passed. The workmen at the close of the last day's labor, on this part of the road, looked with a sigh of relief on the well finished roadbed, but to their surprise on the following morning when arriving at the scene of their previous day's labor, a great embankment was not to be seen but an enormous hole thirty-six feet deep and twelve rods in length. The slippery mud of the meadow had allowed the heavy mass of gravel piled upon its surface to settle until its downward course was stopped either by the hardpan of clay or by the rocky crust of the earth. The accident however turned out better than was anticipated, for the big hole furnished an excellent depository for the vast amount of dirt and rocks removed from the neighboring hills which otherwise would have been difficult to dispose of, finally making an excellent and solid foundation for the road across the swamp. The construction of bridges over the rivers and brooks was an item of great expense in building the road. Sixty-two bridges were built by Prince and Young over the first dozen miles between High street in Newburyport and Peabody's mills in Topsfield, and sixty-nine other bridges were necessary in the remaining distance. A large number of these so called bridges were nothing more than culverts, three or four feet wide, but several expensive bridges were built over the rivers which the road crossed. At Little river in Newbury, a bridge of timber thirty feet in length was required, built upon stone abutments ten feet high with wings of stone one hundred and thirty feet long and six feet high. Another expensive bridge was erected over the Parker river. The construction of this bridge entailed an expense of seven thousand dollars. The bridge over the Ipswich river, with a span of seventy feet, was built at a great cost, owing to the hill on the south and the long marsh on the north, and three hundred feet of abutments were constructed. The only entry in the Topsfield town records concerning the turnpike appears under date of Apr. 1, 1805 when it was voted, "To grant liberty to the Newburyport Turnpike Corporation to erect a dry bridge across the road near Joseph Andrews, provided it is done to the reasonable satisfaction of the Selectmen and Sylvanus Wildes, Isaac



Averill and Joseph Andrews and all persons immediately concerned or the major part of them."

Work on the turnpike began Aug. 23, 1803, and was continued until November of that year. Four miles of road had been built during this time. In the spring of 1804 it was deemed advisable to push the work ahead with rapidity and accordingly five hundred men with oxen and horses, were employed. The most expensive as well as the most difficult part of the road was from Peabody's mills to Malden. This section of the road was under the direction of Capt. Jonathan Ingersoll, one of the Directors. In this section sixty-nine stone culverts, and six wooden bridges, from eight to seventy feet in span, were built. Nine hills were cut down varying depths from twelve to twenty-five feet, and many smaller hills from six to twelve feet. Eighteen causeways from four to twenty-five feet in height, and with a total length of two hundred and fifteen feet, were required to fill up the deep depressions on the road bed. For blasting the rocks and ledges used for culverts, bridge abutments, etc., three hundred pounds of gunpowder were used, while fifty casks were required for the same purpose on other parts of the road. To complete this section three hundred men, eighty yoke of oxen and twenty horses were employed for seven months, through the summer and autumn of 1804. Accidents were frequent on this section of the road, two fatalities occurring on River hill in Topsfield. In the Salem Gazette under date of July 19, 1804, it is recorded that Jonathan Hoyt, aged twenty, of Concord, N. H., was instantly killed by the falling of earth. Again under date of July 26, 1805, it is reported that "Francis Skerry, aged fifty, was killed by the falling of a large quantity of earth from the bank at Topsfield hill while at work upon the turnpike road." The account goes on to say that "Another man was much hurt at the same time so as to be obliged to have a leg amputated. One man was killed and two wounded, at the same place, and in the same manner last summer." At the close of 1804 the road was completed to Malden and early in the next year the work was extended to a mass of rock in Malden, called in good reason, as the turnpike men thought, Tophet ledge.





While the charter of the Company called for a road to Chelsea Bridge, the damages seemingly were to be so excessive that some other means of reaching Boston was sought. The first plan, which was strongly contested and at last rejected by the Legislature, was to construct a bridge across the Charles river to Barton's point. Then another petition was presented whereby the Newburyport Turnpike Corporation were to join with the proprietors of the Middlesex Canal and build a bridge over the Charles river, the last named Company to use the bridge as a tow path. This also was refused. But February 2, 1805, an Act was passed allowing the corporation to build to Jenkin's Corner, so called, in Malden, from Malden Bridge, instead of to Chelsea Bridge.

Not only were men employed upon the roadbed, but a large number were employed in other work connected with the turnpike, which progressed rapidly as the roadbed was completed. Three toll houses were constructed, with large gates which swung across the way, as reminders to the traveller that he must help pay for the road. The first house was in Newbury, and is still standing. Another was erected in Topsfield, and a third one in Chelsea. February 2, 1805, by a special Act of the Legislature, the proprietors were given the right to collect toll on parts of the road already completed. According to the requirements of first charter they were not allowed to collect tolls until the road was finished, but as a part of the road then was being used they thought it their right to collect. In Lynnfield, fifty-three acres of land were purchased, and a large hotel constructed at a cost of \$19,347.00. Ice houses, stables, a blacksmith shop, and other out-buildings necessary for an establishment of this nature were built in addition. The Company also furnished the hotel. The Topsfield Hotel was built at a cost of \$22,296.00. The lot on which it was located contained four and one-half acres of land, and buildings similar to those at Lynnfield were built in connection with the hotel. Mention of some of the famous gatherings at this Topsfield Hotel may not be out of place. In 1808 a great Canvass was held to denounce the Embargo. In 1829, the County Convention

THE  
JOURNAL  
OF  
THE  
AMERICAN  
MEDICAL  
ASSOCIATION  
PUBLISHED WEEKLY  
CHICAGO, ILL., U.S.A.  
Vol. 10, No. 1, January 1, 1917  
Price, Five Cents  
Subscription Price, \$5.00 per Annum in Advance  
Entered as Second-Class Matter, October 3, 1911  
Postpaid  
Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Act of October 3, 1917  
Authorized by Act of October 3, 1917  
Copyright, 1917, by American Medical Association  
Printed at the American Medical Association, 535 North Dearborn Street, Chicago, Ill.  
Second-Class Postage Paid at Chicago, Ill.  
Postmaster: Send address changes to JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, 535 North Dearborn Street, Chicago, Ill.



which established Lyceums met there. The Essex Agricultural Society was organized there in 1818, as were the annual meetings of the Society for the years 1820, '22, '23, '24, '25, '37 and '38. The Essex County Natural History Society was formed there in 1834, and its parlors were frequently the scene of County Conventions and similar gatherings.

The turnpike having been completed to Malden, was opened for public travel on February 11, 1805. At this time, the cost of the road, with its fences, bridges, three toll gates, tools, etc., was \$282,936.38. Another item of expense was the cost of constructing a road from the hotel in Topsfield to the meeting-house, a further outlay of \$1,878.00, and also \$560.00 expended for five acres of additional land in Topsfield. The furniture for the hotel cost \$713.00, not an extravagant sum and the buildings were rented at the rate of \$400.00 per annum. The Legislature by a special grant, allowed the corporation to lay the road only three rods wide at Malden, thereby saving the expense of moving walls.

The first man to collect toll at the Newbury gate was Peter Flood. He was succeeded by James Merrill, and he in turn by a Mr. Page. Moses Pillsbury was the first man at Topsfield, and was followed by Leonard Cross and Moody Morse. At the Chelsea gate David Williams was the first man. He was succeeded by Daniel Collins and Cornelius Conway Felton. A half-gate, where only half-toll was taken, was erected at Ipswich where John Brown collected toll. Another half-gate was erected in Rowley, and still another at Trotter's bridge in Newbury. Peter Flood was allowed \$240.00 a year and house rent and Moses Pillsbury was given the same. David Williams received \$200.00 a year, but was not allowed house rent. These toll collectors were each required to furnish bonds at one thousand dollars. After it was discovered that the road would not pay large dividends, the toll collector's salaries were reduced to \$100.00 a year. The toll rates for each person passing over the turnpike were one and sixpence, or twenty-five cents, for a carriage with four wheels and drawn by four horses. Carts and wagons with



two horses paid half this amount, or nine pence. A one horse chaise paid ten cents ; a man on horseback five cents ; neat cattle, one cent and sheep and swine, three cents a dozen. According to the general turnpike laws no toll could be collected from a passenger on foot. At the time of the "Irish famine," a great many Irish immigrated to this country, and in order to save the charge of immigration, which was so much a head, they shipped to Nova Scotia and New Brunswick ; crossed the line into Maine and then made their way to Newburyport. As the turnpike was the direct way to Boston, parties of ten or twelve, men, women and children, passed over it, stopping at the farm houses along the way wherever night overtook them, in this way avoiding the entrance fee into the country. No toll could be collected from anyone going to or from public worship within the limits of any town, nor from any person passing to his daily labor or upon the ordinary business of family concerns, nor from a person passing on military duty. This law gave the people in any town the right to travel anywhere within the limits of the town free of charge. These privileges were surely very liberal when the amount of money expended in building the road is considered. Without doubt both corporation and public evaded the law. The town of Danvers, feeling aggrieved at the excessive tolls that were demanded, held a special town-meeting and appointed a committee of three to wait upon the Directors of the road, with a complaint that the proceedings of the toll gatherer at the Danvers gate had been such that " they had been injured in their rights, not even the minister being permitted to visit his people when they were sick without paying toll ; also others are required to pay toll while engaged in their common ordinary business or domestic affairs."

There were three full gates between Newburyport and Malden, and the owner of a four-horse carriage, when travelling the entire distance, paid " four and six " or seventy-five cents, and the one-horse chaise even with the deacon in it, paid " two and three-pence " or thirty-seven and one-half cents. Human nature was the same then as now, and the people of that day were not adverse to





cheating the corporation whenever the chance presented itself. Owing to the thirty-eight public roads which the turnpike crossed, it was not very difficult to avoid toll and to stop this leak the half-gates were erected. The fine for evading a toll was from ten to fifty dollars. Occasionally a man was caught evading the law, but the case was usually settled outside of court, as the culprit was generally "a respectable citizen," in his own opinion at least. In 1808, "a respectable citizen" of Ipswich, passing on horseback, attempted to avoid toll in order to save the sum of five cents. Being detected he tried to pacify the toll collector by the offer of two dollars, but Peter Flood was not to be bribed, whereupon the offender wrote a pathetic appeal to the President of the corporation, in which, after offering many excuses, he begged for mercy. After some little difficulty he succeeded in getting off, no doubt at the last satisfied that it did not pay to be "penny-wise and pound foolish."

Unfortunately, the happy day never came to the stockholders of the turnpike, when the tenth section of their charter should endanger the reaping of the profits from the road. This section provided that when the company had received toll sufficient to cover the cost of the road together with twelve per cent interest, this road should become the property of the Commonwealth. However, it is said, that the Salem turnpike paid the principal in full. From a financial point of view the turnpike was doomed from the start. This was largely due to the excessive demands for land damages and also to the unexpected difficulties encountered which made the final cost far exceed the original estimate. The funds for constructing the road were obtained by twenty-six assessments upon the shareholders. The first assessment was made on April 20, 1803 and was \$5,000.00. Those that followed were for \$10,000.00 ; \$15,000.00 ; and \$20,000.00 ; the last one being levied in October 1806. The total amount raised by the assessments was \$439,000.00. This sum paid for only twenty-eight miles of the road ; that part which was constructed in Malden cost about \$35,000.00 in addition. Other expenses necessary for its completion brought the total cost





of the road well up to half a million dollars. The total amount of capital stock was one thousand shares, and each share represented an outlay of about five hundred dollars. In order to pay six per cent on this great cost, a gross income of more than thirty thousand dollars a year would have been required, while to pay the twelve per cent net profit, allowed by section ten of the charter, together with the first cost, would have demanded a steady stream of travel, day and night.

The hotel at Topsfield was twelve miles from Newburyport and being a very convenient building was considered the best tavern on the "Eastern" roads. It was expected that this hotel would be rented at eight hundred dollars per year. The Lynnfield hotel was only ten miles from Charles River bridge and being a roomy house and well situated it was expected to attract large numbers of people from Boston and Salem, more especially during the summer months. This hotel was to be rented at four hundred dollars a year. Neither of these hotels were a source of profit. The rent of each was reduced from time to time to a low figure and finally they were sold for a fraction of their cost.

The first toll was taken at the Newbury gate, now Newburyport, on Feb. 11, 1805. The amount taken at all the gates during the first twelve months was \$2,485.00. The second year it was \$3,150.00, and the gross amount received for toll from the time of the opening of the road until 1818, was \$51,612.00. The care and maintenance of the road cost from two thousand to three thousand dollars each year, so that the net income for the first fifteen years was only about four hundred dollars a year. For six months in 1805, the toll taken at Newbury amounted to \$2,909.00; at Topsfield it was \$251.00; and at Chelsea, \$420.00. For six months in 1819, the gate at Newbury paid \$518.00; the Ipswich half-gate, \$560.00; the Danvers half-gate, \$320.00; and the Chelsea gate, \$680.00. In 1829 the Newbury gate paid five dollars a week; the Rowley gate, seven dollars and a half; the Topsfield gate, five dollars; and the Chelsea gate, three dollars and a quarter. In 1830, Ipswich half-gate paid \$237.00; in 1840 it paid



\$131.00 ; and in 1841, only \$86.00. With receipts coming in at this rate the prospects for the owners of the road were not exceptionally good. It is the general impression that dividends were never paid by the corporation, but this is erroneous. The first dividend was paid January 6, 1806, upon the earnings for nine months, and was at the rate of \$2.25 per share, less than half of one per cent. The second years' dividend of \$2.00 a share was declared July 17, 1806. The third dividend, of \$2.70 a share, was declared January 5, 1807 and was the largest of any paid. In 1819 the nineteenth dividend was declared for the amount of \$2.50 a share and in 1820 the twenty-second dividend of fifty cents a share was declared. In July, 1823, the hotels were sold and five dollars a share was returned to each shareholder. The Lynnfield hotel brought \$2,550.00, and Cyrus Cummings of Topsfield paid \$3,035.00 for the hotel in that town.\* There were very few transfers of stock and they were mostly forced sales made necessary by the settlement of estates. In 1814, two shares sold for \$63.00 each ; in 1831, fifty shares brought \$525.00, that is, \$10.50 a share ; and in 1841, seven shares sold for fifty-seven cents a share.

The stage coaches which ran over the turnpike were not owned by the corporation and great difficulty would have been experienced in paying the running expenses had it not been for the tolls collected from "The Eastern Stage Company." The old line of mail stages started by Ezra Lunt in 1774 was succeeded in 1794 by Jacob Hale's four-horse coach, which was run until the Eastern Stage Company was incorporated in June, 1818. Starting from Newburyport the stage line followed the old post road which wound about from one post office to another, forty-three miles to Boston, and required eight hours to pass over its devious route. Later the time was shortened to six hours. The owners of the turnpike saw that the carrying of mail over their road would be an item of income so

\*The Topsfield hotel was kept by Mr. Cummings for a number of years. In 1844 it was taken down and removed to the beach at Clifton, where it was rebuilt substantially as before. It was rented as a summer resort, and during the season a steamboat made regular trips to and from Boston, landing the passengers in boats. The venture was not a financial success and on January 1, 1846, the building was totally destroyed by fire.





in 1817, Nicholas Pike and others sent a petition to the Postmaster General, stating that the Newburyport Turnpike Corporation had built a turnpike from Newburyport to Boston, at a cost of nearly half a million dollars, "generally supposed to be the best in the United States, by which they had shortened the distance between these towns about eight miles. By the present mail route six hours are required for the passage of mail, by the Turnpike it can be done in four," said the petitioners. Another appeal to Congress was made in 1818, setting forth that the road was a great public convenience, but that the cost of building had been so large that the owners had suffered great loss from the investment and asking assistance from the general government. It was a great question, which for many years was a bone of contention between political parties, whether Congress had the right to spend any part of the revenue of the country upon "internal improvements," such is canals, roads, bridges, etc.. It was within the power of Congress to help, however, to the extent of ordering the United States mail to be carried over this turnpike, which was finally done. This was brought about by the organization of the Eastern Stage Company of which Dr. Nehemiah Cleveland of Topsfield was the first President. The toll paid by the Company for the privilege of passing the Newbury gate was \$365.00 a year, which gave the use of the road as far as Topsfield where the stage turned off at "the half-way house" in order to collect mail in other towns. As the business of the stage coach increased the toll paid for the use of the road also increased. In 1824 the Company paid \$800.00; in 1830, the sum of \$900.00; and in 1834, the charges were increased to \$1000. a year. But this included the privilege to run all stages, carriages, post chaises, and wagons, over the entire length of the road. The great ridges at Topsfield were very trying to the strength of weary horses, as well as dangerous to passengers. Accidents were not uncommon and some of the best stage drivers refused to drive coaches over the turnpike. Some of the best known drivers, over this route, were Ackerman, Barnabee and Forbes. The stage that carried "the great eastern mail," at first turned off





at the "half-way house" in Topsfield, thence going to Danvers and to Salem, but afterwards it followed the "air line" to Boston. This coach ran light. In the ordinary coach there was always room for one more; in the mail stage only four passengers were allowed to be carried. The fare from Boston to Newburyport was two dollars by the ordinary stage, but by the mail stage it was two dollars and fifty cents. The stage company carried the mail from Portsmouth to Boston and a passenger travelling between these points paid four dollars for his transportation. Drivers of the old stage coaches, to be accommodating, sometimes carried express parcels, but after some owners had tried to obtain damages from the Company for parcels which had been lost it was voted at a meeting of the Directors that "drivers are expressly prohibited from carrying any money or packages not accounted for to the company's agent," and at a later meeting it appeared that a "committee is considering the subject of drivers carrying provisions from sundry places to Boston for sale, contrary to a vote of the directors." In April 1819 the following was recorded: "the company do not consider themselves accountable for the loss of any baggage, bundles or packages whatever, committed to the care of the drivers, or otherwise put into their stages." The Eastern Stage Company was very prosperous and paid good dividends on its stock, which in 1834 was worth over two hundred per cent. In 1825 the company owned two hundred and eighty-seven horses, thirty-five coaches and twelve chaises. The stables and workshops were located in Newburyport and covered a large area. The Wolfe Tavern, at Newburyport, was purchased by the Company in 1828 and became the head quarters and starting point and also the home station of the coaches of the Company. The Eastern Stage Company flourished for about twenty years. After the advent of the railroad the coaches became few in number and at last, "Major" Samuel Shaw put on a coach with the fare at one dollar and fifty cents to Boston, and the stage company ran a coach in opposition with the fare at one dollar.

The necessity for the turnpike having passed away, be-



fore long it seemed desirable that portions of it should become public highways and therefore in 1850 the County of Essex paid to Richard Stone, the last treasurer of the corporation, the sum of one thousand dollars and in 1851, twelve hundred dollars was also paid for a portion of the turnpike which was laid out as a county road. That part of the road extending from Rowley to Lynnfield, was accepted as a County road on May 10, 1849. The toll houses were sold prior to 1851 and probably no toll was taken after 1847.





THE WILDES FAMILY OF ESSEX COUNTY,  
MASSACHUSETTS.

BY WALTER DAVIS, JR.

1 William Wild is first mentioned in connection with the New World on the passenger list of the ship "Elizabeth," of London, which sailed for New England in the spring of 1635. With him came Alice Wild, aged forty years, whose relationship to him is uncertain, and his brother, John Wild, aged seventeen. This list of passengers, which is among the records of the London Custom House, shows that he was thirty years of age in 1635, from which the year of his birth may be approximated as 1605. William Wild settled in Ipswich before 1638, when his name first appears on the records of the town in a grant of land to Henry Wilkinson, dated July 25, 1638.

"Granted to Henry Wilkinson by the company of free-man 1635 three acres of planting ground on the south syde the Towne River. Also hee is possessed of three acres adjoyning unto the same, the which latter three acres hee bought of Robert Hayes, and was granted unto y<sup>e</sup> sayde Robert Hayes at the same tyme the whole six acres, having a planting lott of Robert Cross on the East, and a house lott of John Dayne's on the West, also on the same syde a planting lott of William Wildes, buting upon the North end upon the river. Also three acres of planting ground lying upon Sogamore Hill, having Andrew Story's lott on the Southeast, and Michaell Williamson's lott on the Northeast."

No record of grants of land to William Wild in Ipswich can be found, but from a deed made by his nieces in 1685, the following is learned concerning his Ipswich property. "One dwelling house w<sup>ch</sup> said William Dec<sup>d</sup> out of with all buildings Edifices y<sup>r</sup> upon & Rights of Comons y<sup>r</sup> unto belonging y<sup>e</sup> said house lott being one acre more or les with all y<sup>e</sup> trees & fences appertaining & belonging also five acres or six acres or thereabout being more or less



bounded by the land of Aaron Pengry So-west & Goodwife Quilters & Henry Osburnes also Bounded No-west by Moses Pengry land Northerly by Thomas Medcalfs land No: East by land in possession of Caleb Kimball which is Scituate in ye comon feild upon y<sup>e</sup> north side of Ipswich river." (Essex Deeds, Vol. 15, leaf 119.)

In 1643, the town records of Rowley show that a house lot on "Bradford streete," was granted to William Wild, "containing an Acree and an halfe bounded on the South side by Thomas Palmers house Lott: part of it lying on the West side and part of it on the East side of the streete." In the same year he received grants of forty-eight acres of pasture land, marsh and upland in Rowley. He accumulated a large estate in Rowley as the following deeds show.

William Wild of Rowley, carpenter, sold to James Barker, tailor, "five acres of land . . . in Bradford streete lotts . . . bounded by y<sup>e</sup> land of William Jackson toward the north and the land of Thomas Palmer toward the South having the highwaye on the east & the common on the west." April 16, 1652. (Ipswich Deeds, Vol. 1, p. 126.)

William Wild of Ipswich, sold to George Hadley of Rowley, all the "accomodations granted unto him by the towne of Rowley at Merrimack river nere Haverill, viz: all his house and barne & fifteen acres of land about it, lying & being by Merrimack river, having the land of Robert Hazeltine toward the east & the town pasture toward the west: alsoe twenty eight acres, be it more or less, lying at the end of the aforesaid land . . . alsoe two hundred acres, be it more or less, having the land of Robert Hasseltine toward the east, Rowley comon toward the west & the land last mentioned toward the north & Rowley comon toward the south." Dec. 17, 1655. (Ipswich Deeds, Vol. 1, p. 182.)

William Wild of Ipswich, sold to Robert Andrews "a parcell of land being part of the village land of Rowley conteining seaventy acres . . . as it lyeth bounded by other land of the Said Robert Andrews wch he purchased of John Lambert toward the southeast & Southwest, the land of Abel Langley toward the norwest shooteing down to





Pye brook toward the northeast." July 26, 1661. (Ipswich Deeds, Vol. 2, p. 49.)

William Wild of Ipswich, sold to William Boynton of Rowley "all my land lying upon Merrinack river, with the priviledges thereof as it lyeth bounded, the vilage land eastward, the land of Thomas Palmer southward, Merri-mack river westward and the land of William Jackson northward." Oct. 26, 1661. (Ipswich Deeds, Vol. 2, p. 90.)

William Wyld of Rowley was made a freeman, January 31, 1646.

The above records show that Wild returned to Ipswich about 1655, where he practiced his trade of carpentering. It is recorded in January, 1656, that the selectmen determined to build a wharf for the use of the town, and "for the oversight and caring on of the cappenters worke. have named and apoynted Henry Pindar and William Wild." William Wyld was also appointed a fence viewer in 1658. He died in Ipswich between May 6 and Sept. 30, 1662, leaving his estate to his widow Elizabeth. Al, though he was not among the wealthiest men in the colony, he had a large estate for the times. His will and inventory-both on file in Salem, follow :

"I william wild of Ipswich in the county of Effex in New England being at present Sicke and weake of body but through Gods mereye Inioyeing my vnderstanding and memory doe make & ordaine this my last will and Testament first I giue my soule into the hands of Jefus christ my Redeemer my Body to be defently buried And for my outward estate which the Lord hath beene pleased to giue I dispoze of as followeth After my debts & funerall expences are discharged I doe giue and bequeath vnto my beloued wife Elizabeth wild my dwelling house and all my land for the toorme of her natural Life and after her deceafe I giue all my sayd house and Land I doe giue vnto John wild the sonn of John wild of Toppsfield my Kinsman Item I doe giue and bequeath vnto my Kinsman John wild Senior of Toppsfield tenn pounds wch he the sayd John wild hath in his hands of myne & doe order the bond I haue of him for it to be rendered up vnto him after my deceafe Item I doe giue vnto Robert Ames the sum of five pounds



to be payd by my executrix within one yeare after my death Alfoe I giue vnto marke warner the Summ of five pound Alfoe I giue vnto Hanah Lampson the summ of ten pounds to be payd by my executrix as my Overseers shall apoynt and the rest of my estate I leave vnto my beloued wife Elizabeth wild whom I make sole executrix of this my last will and testament And I doe desire my Loueing friends Theophilus willson william white & Robert Lord senior to be my overseers to see that this my last will be pformed according to the true intent & meaneing thereof And it is my will and mynd that If my Kinsman John wild Junior depart this life before he come to age or before the sayd house & Land comes into his possession that then it be devided among the children of John wild senior vnless the Sayd John leaue heires then to be vnto them In wittnes that this is my last will & testament I haue heervnto sett my hand the Sixt day of may in the yeare one thousand Six hundred sixty two 1662

william wild did  
subscribe this & declare  
it to be his last will  
in the presence of vs  
Theophilus wilson  
William White  
Robert Lord

William Wild

gved in court held at Ipswich the 30<sup>th</sup> of September 1662 by the oath of Theophilus willson & Robert Lord to be the last will and testament of william wilde to the best of there knowledge

p me Robert Lord cleric

An Inventory of the estate of william wyld of Ipswich lately deceased taken the 26 of June 1662

Imprimus the dwelling house orchyard

ground about it & 6 acre planting lott	46 - 0 - 0
Itt a mare and three colts	31 - 0 - 0
It. two cowes & 2 yearlings	11 - 0 - 0
It. three oxen	18 - 0 - 0
It. 6 hoggs & 3 piggs	04 - 10 - 0
It. in the hall 2 little tables	0 - 6 - 0





It. 3 chaires 2 formes & a stoole	0 - 7 - 6
It. a Cubberd 2 chests & a box	1 - 4 - 0
It a kneading trough one tub two keelirs	
5 trayes 2 beere veffels & pails	0 - 12 - 0
It one poudering [torn] & od wooden things	0 - 6 - 0
It. In earthern ware	0 - 5 - 0
It. one chamber pott & other pewter	0 - 13 - 0
It. a braf kettell skillett & warming pan	1 - 4 - 0
It. 2 Iron potts & other Iron things	1 - 4 - 0
It. 6 old axes 3 old fickles 3 wedges one	
broad how 2 beetell rings & a hammer	1 - 2 - 0
It. In weareing apparrell one cloake	
Jackett Breeches & hatt	6 - 14 - 4
It. a ferge sute	1 - 10 - 0
It a cloth coat & fute & other old apparell	1 - 10 - 0
It 2 paire of shoes & 4 paire of stockens	1 - 00 - 0
It one yard & halfe of woollen cloath	0 - 4 - 6
It 7 yards of cotton & wooleing cloaths	1 - 1 - 0
It a payr of sheets & table cloaths [torn]	5 - 0 - 0
It half a dozen of Napkins	0 - 9 - 0
It 7 shirts	1 - 15 - 0
It three cufhons	0 - 5 - 0
It one bedsted	1 - 0 - 0
It. for curtaines & valance	1 - 15 - 0
It. a fether bed boulster & three pillows	4 - 10 - 0
It. a blankett coverlet & Rug	3 - 0 - 0
It. one bedsted strawbed flock boul-	
ster blankett & coverlett	1 - 15 - 0
It. in drest hempe	0 - 10 - 0
It. barke tubs	0 - 05 - 0
It. in sheepe woole	0 - 5 - 0
It. coslett pike and sword	1 - 4 - 0
It. a tub with 4 bushells of wheate	1 - 1 - 0
It. one ewe lamb	- 10 - 0
It. fowling peece	0 - 18 - 0
It. a crofe cut Saw	0 - 05 - 0
It. by debts owing to the estate	71 - 10 - 6
Summa Tottalis	225 - 14 - 6
debt oweing from the estate about	5 - 00 - 0

Theophilus wilfon  
Robert Lord Jnior



Alice Wild, whose name was on the passenger list of the Elizabeth, is not mentioned on New England records, so far as yet discovered. It seems probable, however, that she may have been the first wife of William and that she died soon after their arrival. Elizabeth Wild is first mentioned as the wife of William Wild, in 1652, when she consents to a transfer of land (Ipswich Deeds, Vol. 1, p. 126.) After her husband's death in 1662, she married Richard Moore of Lynn, on November 6, 1662. Her agreement with Moore concerning her estate is recorded in Ipswich Deeds, Vol. 2, leaf 224, as follows:—

“Know all men by these presents that there being a marriage intended between Richard Moore of Lynn and Elizabeth Wild of Ipswich . . . the said Richard Moore shall have the estate of the said Elizabeth to make use of and improve during the time that it shall please the Lord they continue to gether but the said Elizabeth still shall have power (of what estate she brings) to dispose of as she shall think best at the time of her death: and in case the sayd Richard Moore depart this life before the sayd Elizabeth, that then the sayd Richard Moore doth by these presents engage himself to give unto her the said Elizabeth the summ of forty pounds (besides her own estate she brings to him).” October 30, 1662.

The will of her second husband, Richard Moore, mentions his widow, their contract before marriage, and his three sons, Thomas, John, and Samuel Moore. This will was made November 29, 1688, and probated September 24, 1689. The date of her death is unknown.

**2 John Wild** was born in England in 1618 and settled with his brother at Ipswich. In 1637 the new settlers were plunged into war with the Pequot Indians and John Wild was among the men of Ipswich who served, receiving 3s. for this service in 1639. His name was also in the list of soldiers to whom it was “agreed that each soldier for their service to the Indians shall be allowed 12s. a day.” December 4, 1643. The date of his removal to New Meadows or Topsfield, as it became in 1648, is unknown, but it probably occurred about 1645 at





the time of his marriage to Priscilla, daughter of Zaccheus Gould, one of the earliest settlers and most prominent men of the town.

The first record found after his settlement in Topsfield is a deed of sale, dated July 15, 1654, from John Wilds, carpenter, to Robert Andrews, for twenty acres of upland "Lying between y<sup>e</sup> upland of John Willds towards the South West & Daniel Clark toward y<sup>e</sup> North & northeast Abutting upon a Comon Way towards the Southeast & ground of y<sup>e</sup> sd Daniel Clarks toward y<sup>e</sup> north West." On July 5, 1660 he purchased of Richard Swaine of Hampton one hundred acres of upland "bounded with the comon land in Topsfield toward y<sup>e</sup> northwest, land of the said John Wild toward the northeast, land of Thomas Perkins & Robert Andrews towards the Southwest, and land of John Readdington towards the Southeast." Between 1663 and 1686 he sold ninety-four acres of land in Topsfield at various times to William Acie of Rowley, John French, Thomas Perkins, William Perkins, and Robert Andrews of Topsfield.

The town records of Topsfield contain the following items relating to John Wild:—

John Wiles shared in the common land in 1661.

Minister's rate, 1664, John Wiles, 01-12-10.

County rate, 1668, John Wilds, 13-3-0.

"John Wiles and danil borman are Chosen to vew fences this yeare insuing." March, 1677/8.

John Wiles took the Oath of Allegiance and Fidelity in 1677 and 1678.

He served on committees to lay out land or to run bounds, eleven times between 1663 and 1686.

"John willes is Chosen Juriman of trials for this naxt Court to be at Ipswich." March 2, 1679/80.

"John willes and John how a[re] Chosen to looke that men Ring thare swine acording to towne order." May 10, 1680.

He was a member of a committee to confer with Mr. Danforth "for his Continuing with vs at topefeeld in the worke of the minestri" in 1680.

"Lliut pebody Deckon perkins Sargt Redington James



How senr Mr. Tho: Baker John Gould Sargt peobody Samuell Busell senr John Wilds John How Iacke estey Clarke are Chosen a Commity to discorse with Mr. Capen to stay and preach here with vs at Topsfeild a while." July 29, 1681.

His rating was eighteenth in the minister's rate in 1681, with one hundred and five men taxed.

"The Towne has Lefte it to ye selectmen adding Will: Auerey & Isacke Estey & John Wilds to ye selectmen for ye seateing of pepall in our meeting house." Nov. 21, 1682.

"John Wilds is chosen a tieingman and his presinkes is from Samuel Howlett & all ye flaimelies there about by Deckon perkins & all about Daniell Clarke." March 18, 1682/3.

"John Wilds & Elisha perkins are Chosen seueruoyes for hie Wayes & ffences for this yeare " March 6, 1682.

In 1684 John Wilds and his wife were members in full communion of the Topsfield Church. Priscilla (Gould) Wilds had died in 1662 and he had married Sarah Averill, November 23, 1663.

During the long dispute which the colonies had with the government of Charles II. concerning the validity of their charter, the town of Topsfield took action as follows:—"Wee doe hereby declare yt wee are Vtterly Vnwilling to yeeld ether to a Rasignation of the Charter or to anything yt shall be equeualent there Vnto Whereby ye foundation there of should be raced. Wee Whoes Names are Vnder Wrighteen doe hereby declare that Wee are desierous yt all humbell applection be made to his Maiesty yt Wee may still inioy or priuiliges according to charter

John How  
William perkins  
John Robinson  
John Wilds  
John Townes"

It is difficult to reconcile John Wild's sentiments as expressed in this record to the fact that he was one of the chief witnesses against his brother-in-law, Lieut. John Gould, who was charged with treason on August 5, 1686,





for expressing the same sentiments in a more forcible and indiscrete manner. It would seem that the relations between the Wild and Gould families became strained after the death of Priscilla (Gould) Wild, and John Wild's second marriage. The fact that John Wild, Jr.'s will was made in 1676, in order "that my father may com to no trobell by any claims of my onkel gould," is further evidence toward this conclusion. The part which the family of Wild's first wife played in the trial of his second wife for witchcraft, in 1692, will be shown later.

When the terrible Witchcraft delusion swept over Essex county, the Wild family were among the greatest sufferers. The wife, two daughters, and a son-in-law of John Wild, were all imprisoned, but all escaped except his wife, Sarah Wild, who was convicted and executed.

On April 9, 1690, John Wilds, carpenter, transferred to his son Ephraim Wilds "in Confideration of y<sup>e</sup> Natural affection I beare to my Son" and "in Confideration of Seuē yeares Service that I had of him when he might have been for himselfe . . . all my housing lands & meadows together with all my stork of Cattol Sheep Swine Carts ploughs household Stuffe of all Sorts & kinds whatsoever." The farm was bounded as follows: "with lands of John franchises on y<sup>e</sup> west and lands of Mr. William Perkins towards y<sup>e</sup> South & with lands formerly John Reddingtons towards y<sup>e</sup> east and with lands formerly Robert Andrews and Mr. Baker towards y<sup>e</sup> north." The old Wildes homestead, which remained standing until 1835, was situated in what is now a pear orchard at the forks of the road coming from Mile Brook bridge. On June 26, 1693, John Wild married for his third wife, Mary Jacobs of Salem. During the latter years of his life he is referred to in the town records as "old father Wildes." He died in Topsfield, May 14, 1705, at the age of eighty-five years.

Priscilla Gould, daughter of Zaccheus and Phoebe (Deacon) Gould, the first wife of John Wild, was probably born during her father's residence at Great Missenden, England, about 1625, but it cannot be stated with certainty as the records of Great Missenden have been destroyed



by fire. Zaccheus Gould, whose ancestry has been traced through many generations of English yeomen, came to New England with his family about 1639. He lived at Weymouth and Lynn and finally settled at Topsfield in 1644 where he became one of the most prominent men and the greatest land-owner in the locality leaving an estate of three thousand acres at the time of his death. Priscilla (Gould) Wild died in Topsfield, April 16, 1663. Her share in the estate of her father was paid to her children by her brother Lieut. John Gould.

Sarah Averill was probably the daughter of William Averill who was an inhabitant of Ipswich as early as 1639. It is certain that she was a sister of William Averill of Topsfield. She married John Wild, November 23, 1663. The marriage of John Wild and Sarah Averill within a year of the death of Priscilla (Gould) Wild, seems to have caused trouble between Wild and two relatives of his first wife, Lieut. John Gould, her brother, and Mary, wife of John Reddington, her sister, who lived on an adjoining farm. The first intimation of this state of affairs, appears in the statement John Wild, Jr., made in his will, regarding his Gould inheritance, in order that his father might not be troubled by any claims of his uncle Gould. In 1686 the breach was widened by the testimony of John Wild against John Gould on the charge of treason. Shortly after this episode, Mary Reddington began to spread witchcraft stories about Sarah Wild through the town and it is to her authority that most of the evidence against Sarah Wild may be traced. When John Wild threatened to sue her husband for slander, she denied her previous statements, but evil had already been wrought. Now the Goulds were related to the Putnam family of Salem Village, in whose home the delusion originated and who were the chief accusers in the trials to come and it is probable that the accusations brought against Sarah Wild by their Topsfield connections, were brought to the willing ears of the afflicted girls of the Putnam family and proved the immediate cause of her arrest. On April 21, 1692, the following warrant was issued, casting terrible affliction upon several Topsfield homes,





none more so than that of John Wild, for the warrant named not only his wife but his daughter and son-in-law, Edward and Sarah Bishop of Salem Village.

"Salem Aprill the 21<sup>th</sup> 1692.

"There being Complaint this day made (before vs) by Thomas Putnam and John Buxton of Salem Village Yeomen, in behalfe of their Majest<sup>ies</sup>, for themselves and also for severall of their neighbours Against William Hobs husbandman Deliv<sup>e</sup> his wife, Nehemiah Abot junior weaver, Mary Easty, the wife of Isaac Easty and Sarah Wilds the wife of John Wilds, all of the Towne of Topsfield or Ipswitch and Edward Bishop husbandman and Sarah his wife of Salem Village and Mary Black A negro of Leut. Nath Putnams of Salem Village also. And Mary English the wife of Philip English Merchant in Salem for high Suspition of Sundry acts of witchcraft donne or Committed by them Lately vpon the Bodys of Anna putnam and Marey Lewis belonging to the famly of y<sup>e</sup> aboused Thomas Putnam complain<sup>t</sup> and Mary Walcot y<sup>e</sup> daughter of Capt Jonath<sup>n</sup> Walcot of sd Salem Village and others, whereby great hurt and dammage hath beene donne to y<sup>e</sup> bodys of said persons abouenamed therefore craued Justice.

"You are therefore in their Majest<sup>ies</sup> names here by Com-required [*sic*] to Apprehend and bring before vs William Hobs husbandman and — his wife Nehemian Abot Jun<sup>r</sup> weaver Mary Easty and all the rest abouenamed tomorrow aboute ten of the clocke in the forenoon at the house of Lieut Nath<sup>l</sup> Ingersalls in Salem Village in order to their examination Relaiting to the premises abouesayd and here of you are not to faile.

Dated Salem Aprill 21<sup>th</sup> 1692

John Hathorne

Jonathan Corwin

Assists.

"To George Herrick Marshall of Essex: and or all of y<sup>e</sup> Constables in Salem or Topsfield or any other Towne."

On the next morning marshal Herrick arrived at the Wild home in Topsfield. By the irony of fate, Ephraim Wild, the only son of John and Sarah, was the constable of



Topsfield that year, and the marshal brought the warrant to him. What a tragedy is laid bare in these old and musty records—the young man finding his mother's name upon the warrant, witnessing her arrest and sad departure from her home and family, never to return and then slowly turning to his duty—the arrest of the remaining victims. His first petition for the release of his mother gives some details of the scene at the house of William Hobbs:—"the woman did show a ueriy bad spirit when I seized: on might almost se revenge in har face she looked so malishosly on mee." At her examination, which apparently occurred before that of Sarah Wild, Deliverance Hobbs confessed herself a witch, and "to be revenged of mee" as Ephraim Wild says, accused his mother of tormenting her. She declared that the shape of Mrs. Wild tore her nearly to pieces, and passed her the Devil's book to sign, bribing her with promises of new clothes. The account of the examination of Sarah Wild is still preserved:

The examination of Sarah Wilds at a Court held at Salem village 1692. by the wop=John Hathorn & Jonathan Corwin

The Suffers were seized with sou [fits as soon as] the accused came into the Court

Hath this woman hurt you

Oh she is vpon the beam

Goody Bibber that never saw her before says she saw her now vppon the beam & then said Bibber fell into a fit

What say you to this are you guilty or not?

I am not guilty. Sir.

Is this ye woman? speaking to the afflicted.

They all or most said yes, and then fell into fits.

What do you say are you guilty

I thank God, I am free.

Here is clear evidence that you have been not only a Tormenter but that you have caused done (some) to signe the book the night before last. What you say to this?

I never saw the book in my life and I never saw these persons before.

Some of the afflicted fell into fits.

Do you deny this thing that is?





All fell into fits and confirmed that the accused hurt them.

Did you never consent that these should be hurt?

Never in my life

She was charged by some with hurting John Herrick's mother.

The accused denied it.

Capt. How gave in a relation and conformation of the charge made.

She was ordered to be taken away and they all cried out that she was on the beam and fell into fits.

The evidence of the witnesses that appeared against her has been lost, but from other papers the names of some of them may be learned. "John Herrick's mother," mentioned in the examination, was probably Mary Reddington, whose daughter Mary had married John Herrick. This same Mary Reddington, whose hatred seems to have been insatiable, was responsible for the testimony of the wife of Samuel Simonds of Topsfield, with whose daughter Ephraim Wild had made a marriage engagement which had been broken when the girl's mother believed the gossip circulated by Mary Redington. "And now she will reward me" the heart-broken son says in a petition. The only other witness, of whom there is any record, is the little daughter of Martha Carrier, one of the accused. She tells the story of a witches' meeting, held at night in Mr. Parris's field, at which Sarah Wild and many others were present, pledging the Devil in wine cups filled with blood, a story which received full credit from the most learned and serious men of the time.

Mrs. Wild was taken to Boston gaol on May 13. In the interval of over two months which elapsed before her execution, her husband and son did everything in their power to prove the evidence against her false and save her from death. Three of their petitions are preserved and are as follows:

"John Wiells testifieth that he did hear y<sup>t</sup> Mary the wife of Jno Reddington did raise a report y<sup>t</sup> my wife had bewitched her and I went to y<sup>o</sup> saide Jno Reddington and told him I would arest him for his wife: defaming of my



wife but y<sup>e</sup> said Reddington desired me not to do it for it would but waste his estate and y<sup>t</sup> his wife would a done w<sup>th</sup> it in tyme and y<sup>t</sup> he knew nothing she had against mye wife— after this I got my brother Averill to goe to y<sup>e</sup> said Sarah Reddington and my sd Bro<sup>r</sup> told me y<sup>t</sup> he told y<sup>e</sup> said Sarah Reddington y<sup>t</sup> if she had anything ag<sup>st</sup> my wife y<sup>t</sup> he would be a means and would help her to bring my wife out: and y<sup>t</sup> y<sup>e</sup> said Sarah Reddington replied y<sup>t</sup> she new no harm mye wife had done her.

“The testimony of Ephraim Willdes aged about 27 or therabouts testifieth and saith that about fouer yers agoe there was som likly hode of my hauing one of Goody Simonds dafter and as the maid towld me hur mother and father were uerrey willing I should haue her but after some time I had a hint that Goodeey Simonds had formerly said she beleud my mother had done her wrong and I went to bare and toch Marke how that is now dead who dyed at the Eastward: along with me and before both of us she denied that euer she had eneeey grounds to think any halme of my mother only from what Goodiey Redington had saide and afterwards I left the house and went no more and euer since she (has) bene uerrey angriey with me and now she will reward mee.

Ephraim Willdes”

“This may inform this Honered Court That I Ephraim Wildes being constabell for topsfield this yere and the Marshall of Sallem coming to fetch away my mother he then showed me a warrant from authority directed to the constabel of topsfelld wherein was William Hobbs and Deliverence his wife with many others and the Marshall did then require me forthwith to gow and aprehend the bodyes of William hobs and his wife which accordingly I did and I have had sereous thoughts many times sence whether my sezing of them might not be some case of here thus a cusing my mother thereby in some mesure to be revenged of me the woman did show a uerrey bad spirit when I seized: on might allmost se revenge in har face she looked so malishosly on me as fore my mother I neuer saw any harm by har upon aniey such acout neither in word nor action as she is now acused for she hath awlwais in-





structed me well in the christian religion and the wais of God euer since I was abell to take instructions and so I leue at all to this honored Cort to consider of it

Ephraim Wildes”

All the efforts of the family were in vain, however, and Sarah Wild was executed on July 19, with Sarah Good, Rebecca Nourse, Elizabeth How and Susannah Martin. Edward and Sarah Bishop managed to make their escape from prison, and Phoebe (Wild) Day, the other daughter of John Wild, who was imprisoned on the same charge at Ipswich, was apparently never tried.

On June 26, 1693, John Wild married Mary Jacobs of Salem. No further record of her can be found. George Jacobs who also was executed as a wizard, left a widow, Mary Jacobs, who possibly may have been the one who married John Wild.

Children by first wife :—

3. JOHN.
4. JONATHAN.
5. SARAH.
6. ELIZABETH.
7. PHOEBE.
8. PRISCILLA, b. April 6, 1658.
9. MARTHA, b. May 13, 1660.
10. NATHAN, b. Dec. 14, 1662; d. March 17, 1662-3.

Child by second wife:

11. EPHRAIM, b. 12th month, 1665.

**3 John Wild** is first mentioned in the will of his uncle, William Wild of Ipswich, of whom he was the principal heir. He was probably born about 1643, as his father was first called John Wild, Sr. in 1664. He sold his inherited estate in Ipswich to John Harris, locksmith, describing it as follows—dwelling house, orchard, and home lot in Ipswich bounded on the south-west by the common highway on the north side of the river on the street commonly called Long Street; on the south-east by the highway that goes into the north field; on the north-east by the land of Thomas Lovell; and on the north-west by the



land of John Edwards. (Ipswich Deeds, Vol. 3, p. 306). John Wild served in King Philip's War, and was under Capt. Poole, June 24, 1676, when 9 pounds, 5s. 8d. was due to him. On August 24, of the same year, 6 pounds, 11s. 6d. was paid to "John Wilde" of Topsfield. He died between June and September, 1677, unmarried. His will follows:—

This may satisfy whome it may conserne: that I John Wiles Juner have resaiued of my ffather that Land which he promised to my brother Johnnathan: and was ingaged to him and to mysalfe by our Grandfather Gould or fifty pounds to be paied and then my father Receiued his land againe and I doe herby declar that my ffather hath Satisfied and paied me both what was promised or ingaged to my Brother Johnathan and to my salfe to my full satisfaction and the intant of this is that my father may com to no trobell by any claims of my onkel gould: the fifty pounds that was ingaged to me and my brother Johnnathan is paied to me by my father to my full contant in part of that land whihl formerly was good man dormans And now I being prast to go to the war being desierous to satell things before I goo: not knowing how god may daell with me in respect of Retarning againe: If I doe not Return againe: than I doe dispose of what god hath given me as foloweth: I have five sistors and one Brother Sarah: Elizabeth: Phabe: Pracelah: Martha: and Ephrem and my will is that my land at Hauerill and at topsffeld and my mouabells be aqualy deuided amongst all the aboue named sistors and brother: and lat the lands be prised and thos that haue y<sup>r</sup> lands Shall paye to the other that which is there proporshon: and I doe herby apint my Honrad: ffather and louing onkell John Radington to be admenitrators of this estate: and to paye all my debts out of the estate before it be deuided: and this my last will and testement in wetnas whar of I have sat too my hand this too and twantieth day of october one thousan six hundred Savanty and six: y<sup>e</sup> 22: of october 1676:

wetnasis

John How:

marah how

John Wild Juner:





This is to declare that I John Wild of topffeald do pur-  
pos and intend that my formor will written in october : be-  
fore my going to the Eastward fhall stand good : provided  
it be the will of god I retur[n] not again

written the: 22, of June 77.

witn||e||ff our hands

John Wild

John Herrick

her

Sarah bihop

mark

In court held at Ipswich the 25 of Sept: 1677 this will  
proued by the oaths of John How and marah How to be  
the last will of John wild to the best of their knowledge  
as attest Robert Lord cler.

This is A trew Inuentory of the goods and Estate of  
John wilde : Junier : deceased

It. a percell of upland and medow which hee does by writing under his hand acknowl- edged to haue Receiued of his father in lieu of fifty pounds	50 - 00 - 00
It a peece of Indian :   corn   on the ground prifed at fix bushells	00 - 18 - 00
It four sheep at thirty shillings	01 - 10 - 00
It three ould woollin garments at fourteen shillings	00 - 14 - 00
It a farge westcote and fom ould linin att four fhill	00 - 04 - 00
It an Iron pott feuen fhillings	00 - 07 - 00
It an ould faddle three fhillings	00 - 03 - 00
It three saws at sixteen Shillings	00 - 16 - 00
It two ould axes fve shillings	00 - 05 - 00
It two Iron wedges three fhillings	00 - 03 - 00
It two chizills one fhillings fix pance	00 - 01 - 06
It one augre one fhillings fix pance	00 - 01 - 06
It a pair of beetle Rings one fhillings six pance	00 - 01 - 06
It fom Sheep wooll not appearing how much Rests onprised	
It debts due to him one pound one fhillings eight pance	01 - 01 - 08



It the debts he oweth: the creditors  
not having given in their  
accounts: Remain uncertn in  
the particulars of goods aboue  
mentioned shall waue  
aprised foe done by us whose  
names are under written this  
27<sup>th</sup> of September 1677

Thomas Perkins  
William Auerall

This Inventory deliuered in court held at Ipswich the  
25 Sept. — as A true Inventory of John wildes jun his  
estate as attest Robert Lord cleric

**4 Jonathan Wild** was a soldier in King Philip's War, as is proved by the fact that his nephew, John Wildes, claimed a share in Narragansett No. 3, a township granted to soldiers in King Philip's War, in 1728, in the right of Johnathan Wild. His inventory was presented and administration granted to his father 30: 4 mo. 1676, the year of the war, so it seems probable that he died in the service.

"Jonathan Wild: An Inventory of Jonathan Wilds estate

"A mare & old saddle: 2: a female gun: 15<sup>s</sup> 3: Saws: 18<sup>s</sup>:  
a Book 5<sup>s</sup>: a broad ax: 5<sup>s</sup>: a square 2<sup>s</sup>: 6 d: a mortis  
Auger: 2<sup>s</sup>: old iron 12<sup>d</sup>: an old axe 2<sup>s</sup>: an inch auger  
There is a . . . of land about 15 acres which was to  
be Jonathans after his fathers decease this to be confidered  
whether to be in the inventory or not

"These things were apprifed by us: which are aboue men-  
tioned Saueing only the land: dated 28: June: 1676

John How  
Wm Averell"

**5 Sarah Wild** married Edward Bishop of Salem and Beverly. In 1681 they were residents of Topsfield as it appears that "Edman bishup" was taxed in the minister's rate for that year. On May 25, 1690, Sarah Bishop was received into Salem Village church from Topsfield. In 1692 Edward Bishop and his wife were accused of witchcraft and a warrant was issued for their arrest on April





22. They were confined in Salem goal and examined but no records of their examinations remain. They were taken to Boston goal on May 13 of the same year from whence they were able to make their escape before October 7. During their imprisonment much of their estate was confiscated leaving their large family practically homeless. After their escape they moved to Rehoboth. Sarah Bishop was dismissed from the church at Salem Village to the Rehoboth church on August 31, 1705. She was still living in 1711.

1902746

Edward Bishop, son of Edward and Hannah Bishop of Beverly, was bapt. Feb. 23, 1648. He was in Capt. Poole's Company in King Philip's War. His father deeded to him his homestead on condition that he should care for his parents. The circumstances of his arrest for witchcraft are best understood by the following extracts from Calef's "More Wonders of the Invisible World."

"The occasion of Bishop's being cried out of, was, he being at an examination in Salem, when at the inn an afflicted Indian was very unruly, whom he undertook, and so managed him that he was very orderly; after which in riding home, in company of him and other accusers, the Indian fell into a fit, and clapping hold with his teeth on the back of the man that rode before him, thereby held himself upon the horse; but said Bishop striking him with his stick, the Indian soon recovered, and promised that he would do so no more: to which Bishop replied, that he doubted not but that he could cure them all, with more to the same effect. Immediately after he was parted from them he was cried out of, etc."

"Edward Bishop and his wife having made their escape out of prison, this day Mr. Corwin, the sheriff came and seized his goods and chattels, and had it not been for his second son (who borrowed ten pound and gave it him) they had been wholly lost."

"Received, this 7th day of October, 1692, of Samuel Bishop, of the town of Salem, of the county of Essex in New-England, cordwainer, in full satisfaction, a valuable sum of money, for the goods and chattles of Edward Bishop, senior, of the town and county aforesaid, husbandman;

1907

1907

which goods and chattles being seized, for that the said Edward Bishop, and Sarah his wife, having been committed for witchcraft and felony, have made their escape; and their goods and chattles were forfeited unto their majesties, and now being in the possession of the said Samuel Bishop; and in behalf of their majesties, I do hereby discharge the said goods and chattles, the day and year above written, as witness my hand,

George Corwin, Sheriff."

"Edward Bishop Aged Aboute 44 yeares, Sarah Bishop Aged About 41 yeares, And Mary Eastey Aged About 56 yeares, all Testifie and say that Aboute three weekes Agoe, to say, when wee was in Salem Goale then and there we heard Mary Warrin seuerall times say that the Magistrates might as well examine Keysar's Daughter that had Bin Distracted Many Yeares. And Take noatice of what shee said: as well as any of the Afflicted prsons, for said Mary Warrin when I was Afflicted I thought I saw the Apparitions of a hundred persons: for shee said hir Head was Distempered and that shee could not tell what shee said. And the said Mary Tould us that when shee was well againe she could not say that shee saw any of the Apparitions at the time aforesaid

Edward Bishop, Sarah Bishop, & Mary Eastey."

At the arrest of Edward Bishop, household goods valued by the sheriff at ten pounds were taken from his farm, also 6 cows, 24 swine, and 46 sheep. The imprisonment of himself and his wife aggregated 37 weeks, and ten shillings a week for board and other charges and prison fees amounting to ten pounds were assessed on the estate.

In Rehoboth, Edward Bishop kept an inn. He died May 12, 1711. His will leaves his estate to his wife and eight living children.

Children:—

12. EDWARD, m. Susannah Putnam. Calef gives the following in relation to the trial of his father and mother. "But this the said Bishop's eldest son having married into the family of the Putnams who were chief prosecutors in this business, he holding a cow to be branded lest it should be





seized, and having a boil upon his thigh, with his straining it broke; this is that that was pretended to be burnt with the said brand." In 1711 he moved to Ipswich and in 1727 to Newbury. Susannah (Putnam) Bishop was the daughter of Capt. John and Rebecca (Prince Putnam, and was b. Sept. 4, 1670.

Children:—

JOSIAH, bapt. Aug. 13, 1699.

SUSANNAH, bapt. Aug. 13, 1699.

JAMES, bapt. Aug. 13, 1699.

ENOS, bapt. Dec. 24, 1699.

HANNAH, bapt. Dec. 19, 1703.

DANIEL, bapt. Dec. 3, 1704.

LYDIA, bapt. June 23, 1705.

BENJAMIN, bapt. March 9, 1711.

13. SAMUEL, m. Mary Jones, May 13, 1695. He lived in Salem until 1712, when he moved to Attleborough.

Children:—

SAMUEL, bapt. Jan. 9, 1697-8, in Beverly.

MEHITABLE, bapt. Jan. 9, 1697-8, in Beverly.

MARY, bapt. June 25, 1699, in Beverly.

SARAH, bapt. Nov. 1, 1702, in Beverly.

JOSEPH, bapt. Jan. 5, 1706-7, in Beverly.

BENJAMIN, b. May 10, 1709, in Rehoboth.

EDWARD, b. Jan. 28, 1710-11, in Rehoboth.

14. WILLIAM, m. Dorothy Hooper of Beverly, Oct. 15, 1700. They moved to Attleborough about 1703. Dorothy Bishop was dismissed from Salem Village church to Middleborough, Sept. 17, 1704. William Bishop, m. second, Tabitha Hadley, in 1718.

Children:—

EDWARD, bapt. Sept. 12, 1703.

ELIZABETH, bapt. Sept. 12, 1703.

WILLIAM, Martha, Rebecca, Bailey, Martha, John.

15. JONATHAN, m. Abigail Averill of Topsfield (pub. July 6, 1699), and lived in Beverly until about 1708, when he moved he moved to Rehoboth. He was a sadler. He d. in Rehoboth in February, 1752.

Children:—

GOULD, b. Nov. 13, 1703, in Beverly.

ELIZABETH, bapt. May 26, 1706, in Beverly.

d. 1708, in Rehoboth.



16. PRISCILLA, bapt. Aug. 14, 1681, in Beverly. She m. Samuel Day of Gloucester, Aug. 19, 1702. They lived in Rehoboth and Attleborough. She was dead in 1711. He m. second, Mary Weeks, Apr. 22, 1714.

Children:—

EDWARD, b. June 9, 1705.

JOHN, b. Sept. 29, 1708.

PRISCILLA (bapt.?), Nov. 22, 1711.

17. JOSEPH, bapt. April 8, 1683. Living in 1711.  
 18. SARAH, bapt. May 24, 1685. She m. James Jordon of Rehoboth, Jan. 31, 1705-6, and was living in 1711.  
 19. BENJAMIN, bapt. July 17, 1687; d. before 1711.  
 20. JOHN, bapt. Nov. 27, 1689. He moved to Rehoboth with his parents, and m. Mary Read there, Sept. 13, 1711. She d. Sept. 5, 1712, and he m. second, Martha Read, Oct. 22, 1713. He d. Sept. 1, 1748, and Martha Bishop d. his widow, Nov. 7, 1752.

Children:—

JOHN, b. Aug. 12, 1712.

MARY, b. Oct. 19, 1714; d. 1714-15.

ANNA, b. Jan. 14, 1715-16.

MARTHA, b. March 5, 1718.

EPHRAIM, b. May 23, 1720; d. July 14, 1720.

NOAH, b. July 22, 1722; d. Aug. 8, 1722.

21. DAVID, living in 1711.  
 22. EBENEZER, bapt. May 12, 1695. He m. Mary ———, who d. Sept. 24, 1726. He m. second, Mary Twichell of Rehoboth, Dec. 21, 1726.

Children: b. in Rehoboth:—

JOSIAH, b. Dec. 9, 1711.

HANNAH, b. June 18, 1714; d. young.

HANNAH, b. June 18, 1715.

PRISCILLA, b. Feb. 1, 1716-17.

MARY, b. April 22, 1719; d. July 15, 1723.

RACHEL, b. July 7, 1723; d. Oct. 24, 1724.

EBENEZER, b. Sept. 9, 1726.

6 Elizabeth Wild, married Benjamin Jones of Gloucester on January 22, 1678. They lived in Gloucester until about 1687, when they moved to Connecticut and settled in Enfield. She was living in 1718. Benjamin Jones, son of Thomas and Mary (North) Jones, was





born in Gloucester in 1651. He served in King Philip's War in Capt. Brocklebank's company, which was stationed at Marlborough, and received one pound, four shillings for this service on August 24, 1676. In 1685 he became the first settler of that part of the town of Enfield which was afterward known as Somers. The family lived on their farm during the summers, but returned to Enfield, which was more thickly settled, in the winter. He owned about 200 acres of land in the town in 1703. His house lot was described as follows:—"Next to Tho Hayward ju<sup>r</sup> southerly lies the house lot or home lot of Benjamin Jones 12 rods in breadth and running from the street on the west back Eastward in length 160 rods." He served several times as town officer and died June 25, 1718. Administration of his estate was granted to his son Thomas Jones of Enfield, July 6, 1718. The settlement to the heirs states "This agreement does not intend any land that belongs to the estate of the deceased that is at Gloucester."

Children, b. in Gloucester ;—

23. THOMAS, b. March 13, 1680. He m. Mary Meacham of Enfield, April 24, 1708. He was a very prominent citizen of Enfield, and is mentioned in the records as Lieut. Thomas Jones, gentleman. He was the first representative of the town to the General Assembly of Connecticut after its separation from Massachusetts. He was a Lieutenant of the Ninth Mass. Regiment at the siege of Louisburg in 1745. His son, Isaac Jones, was the first descendant of John Wild to graduate from a college. He died Nov. 4, 1763. His wife died Nov. 8, 1744. Their gravestones are still standing. The settlement of his estate mentions his children, Israel Jones (eldest); Rev. Mr. Isaac Jones of Weston; Mary, wife of Abraham Whipple; Jerusha Spencer, deceased; Bathsheba, wife of John Rees; and Elizabeth, wife of David Kellog.

Children:—

MARY, b. April 2, 1709.

JERUSHA, b. April 8, 1711.

THOMAS, b. March 15, 1712-3; d. before 1763.

BATHSHEBA, d. May 12, 1715.

ISRAEL, b. March 18, 1715-16.

ISAAC, b. Jan. 28, 1717-18.



BATHSHEBA, b. Feb. 25, 1719-20.

ELIZABETH.

SAMUEL, b. Oct. 29, 1725; d. Sept. 19, 1743.

24. PRISCILLA, b. June 10, 1681. She m. John Howard, June 13, 1704. They moved to Stafford.

Children: b. in Enfield:—

PRISCILLA, b. Sept. 20, 1705.

JOHN, b. May 24, 1719.

25. BENJAMIN. He lived in Somers, and had a wife, Anna, or Ann. He d. Feb. 5, 1754.

Children:—

JOSEPH, b. Jan. 3, 1711-2.

ANNE, b. Sept. 9, 1714.

LEVI, b. Nov. 9, 1716.

ABI, b. March 15, 1718-19.

NAOMI, b. March 28, 1721.

IRENE, b. March 30, 1730.

LUCRETIA, b. March 15, 1733.

26. EBENEZER, b. April 17, 1684. He m. first, his cousin, Priscilla (Lake) Smith, May 22, 1712. He m., second, Mehitable —, and, third, Elizabeth —.

Children by first wife:—

ELIZABETH, b. May 11, 1713.

EBENEZER, b. Jan. 12, 1714-15.

GERSHAM, b. April 7, 1717.

Children by second wife:—

EBENEZER, b. Jan. 26, 1723-4.

MEHITABLE, b. June 4, 1725.

Children by third wife:—

EPHRAIM, b. Aug. 9, 1727.

PRISCILLA, b. March 10, 1731-2.

NORTH, b. April 18, 1731.

ZERVIAH, b. March 28, 1734.

ABIGAIL, b. Jan. 4, 1735.

THOMAS, b. Aug. 30, 1741.

MIRIAM, b. August 8, 1747.

27. ELIZABETH, b. Jan. 26, 1686; m. Isaac Osborn of Windsor, Sept. 8, 1715.

28. EPHRAIM, b. July, 1688, in Enfield; d. Sept. 3, 1688.

29. SAMUEL, b. Sept. 22, 1690; d. about Nov. 4, 1691.





30. ELEAZIER, b. April 12, 1693, in Enfield; m. Mehitable Gary, Dec. 10, 1719, and lived in Somers. He d. April 20, 1755.

Children:—

A child, b. May 26, 1721; d. June 26, 1721.

ELEAZER, b. Jan. 26, 1723.

BENJAMIN, b. May 8, 1730.

ELEZIER, b. Feb. 18, 1736.

**7 Phoebe Wild** married Timothy Day of Gloucester, July 24, 1679. Her husband's receipt for her legacy from her grandfather Gould's estate is as follows:—

"This ma sartefti to houn it ma consern that I Timothy Day have reseued the full and iust sum of my wife house name was Phoebe Wylds part of ye wish in riten bond of my unkel John Gould."

In 1692 she was accused of witchcraft and was taken to Ipswich gaol where she remained until September 24, of the same year, when she was released on bonds for her reappearance, together with Mary Rowe and Widow Rachel Vinson. These three Gloucester witches were accused of bewitching the sister of Lieut. Stephens, and the story is also related that when the three women were crossing Ipswich bridge on their way to the gaol, an old woman who met them was immediately thrown into convulsions. The fact that she was taken to Ipswich instead of to Salem, where the trials were being held, may have saved her life, for there were so many victims in Salem that all others were forgotten. She died April 8, 1723, aged seventy.

Timothy Day, son of Anthony and Susannah Day of Gloucester, lived on the westerly side of the Squam River. He was a member of the First Church of Gloucester. In 1730, he deeded his Gloucester property to his son John for care and affection in his old age.



## Children:—

32. TIMOTHY, b. in Topsfield, Jan. 19, 1679-80; m. Jean —, and lived in York and Gloucester. He d. Sept. 16, 1757.

## Children:—

PHOEBE, b. Oct. 11, 1706, at York.  
 ZEBULON, b. April 14, 1709, at Gloucester.  
 ELIPHALET, b. Dec. 17, 1711.  
 JUDITH, b. April 2, 1714.  
 ABNER, b. Aug. 12, 1716.  
 TABITHA, b. Jan. 29, 1719.  
 BETHULA, b. Apr. 2, 1722.

33. JOHN, b. Jan. 21, 1681; d. Jan. 22, 1681.

34. ANTHONY, b. Dec. 20, 1681-2; m. Penelope —. He died Jan. 12, 1712.

## Children:—

MARY, b. March 20, 1709; d. April 11, 1709.  
 CHARITY, b. April 25, 1711.  
 PENELOPE, b. May 22, 1712; d. May 24, 1712.

35. JOHN, b. Feb. 1, 1684; m. Dorothy —. Lived in Gloucester on his father's homestead. He died in 1747.

## Children:—

DOROTHY, b. July 23, 1707.  
 MERCY, b. Oct. 28, 1709.  
 ANNE, b. Aug. 31, 1711.  
 JONATHAN, b. April 29, 1716; d. Oct. 2, 1716.  
 PHOEBE, b. March 12, 1718.  
 JEMIMA, b. Aug. 20, 1720.  
 ZEBEDEE, b. June 17, 1722.  
 EUNICE, b. Oct. 28, 1724.  
 EPHRAIM, b. Feb. 13, 1727.  
 MOSES, b. April 2, 1731.  
 LYDIA, b. April 26, 1734.

36. JONATHAN, b. Nov. 8, 1685-6; m. Sarah Ingersoll of Gloucester, Dec. 3, 1730. He died before 1732.

## Children:—

JONATHAN, b. Oct. 6, 1731.  
 DAVID, b. Feb. 1, 1732, posthumous.

37. JOSEPH, m. Patience —.

## Children:—

DORCAS, b. May 3, 1713, at York.  
 HANNAH, b. Aug. 8, 1714.  
 PATIENCE, b. Dec. 6, 1715.

38. SUSANNAH, b. April 11, 1688; m. David Ring of Gloucester, as his second wife, about 1717. She died, at childbirth, June 19, 1720.





## Child:—

SUSANNAH, b. Dec. 27, 1718.

39. PRISCILLA, b. May 25, 1689; d. June 8, 1689.

40. ELIZABETH, b. May 23, 1690; d. same day.

41. BENJAMIN, b. Dec. 5, 1695; d. July 23, 1697.

42. EBENEZER, b. Nov. 14, 1697; m. Hannah Downing, Dec. 3, 1719. "Old widow Ebenezer Day" died April 1, 1771, in Gloucester.

## Children:—

JONATHAN, b. Feb. 28, 1721.

LUCY, b. Oct. 15, 1722.

HANNAH, b. Nov. 14, 1726.

JOB, b. April 30, 1731.

JERUSHA, b. Oct. 25, 1735.

DAVID, b. Jan. 26, 1737,

JAMES, b. Dec. 16, 1738.

8 Priscilla Wild was born in Topsfield, Apr. 6, 1658. She married, May 9, 1681, Henry Lake who founded the family of that name in Topsfield, and died March 23, 1688. Henry Lake was a weaver and lived first in Salem and then in Topsfield. The cellar of his home may still be seen. He died May 22, 1733. His will, made in 1724, mentions his two sons and two daughters, and twelve grandchildren, to whom he left a large estate. His legacy to his grandson, Eliezer Lake, was "to be paid toward his bringing up to Larning."

Children, born in Topsfield:—

43. GERSHOM, was living in Rehoboth in 1706. He m. Elizabeth Millerd, Oct. 30, 1706. She d. Nov. 11, 1707, and he m. second, Prudence Chaffee of Medfield (int. Dec. 8, 1708). Widow Prudence Lake d. March 18, 1759.

## Children:—

HENRY, b. Nov. 8, 1707; d. April 5, 1708.

JOSEPH, b. Nov. 18, 1709.

ELIZABETH, b. April 28, 1711.

PRUDENCE, b. May 14, 1713; d. Nov. 13, 1713.

PRUDENCE, b. May 15, 1714; d. Feb. 2, 1714-15.

HENRY, b. March 25, 1716; d. Jan. 1, 1718-19.

HANNAH, b. May 13, 1717.

PRISCILLA, b. Sept. 19, 1718.

GERSHOM (?). A Gershom Lake, d. 1719.



44. PRISCILLA, b. Sept. 5, 1684; m. Ebenezer Smith of Rehoboth, Dec. 6, 1706. He was the son of Ens. Ebenezer Smith and Elizabeth (Cooper), and was b. in Rehoboth, July 23, 1660. He d. Feb. 12, 1710-11. She m. her cousin Ebenezer Jones of Enfield as her second husband (int. April 19, 1712). See 26.

Children, b. in Rehoboth:—

ABIGAIL, b. Oct. 6, 1707.

PRISCILLA, b. Sept. 13, 1709.

45. ELIEZER, b. July 9, 1686; m. Lydia Forde, daughter of Matthew and Lydia (Ela) Forde, Dec. 7, 1708. He received from his father "my mansion dwelling house and Land," and became one of the prominent citizens of Topsfield. Lydia (Forde) Lake, d. May 29, 1743. He d. April 29, 1771, "an aged man."

Children, b. in Topsfield:—

LYDIA, b. Nov. 4, 1709.

PRISCILLA, b. Oct. 11, 1715.

ABIGAIL, b. Aug. 14, 1719.

ELIEZER, b. Sept. 12, 1724.

Daniel, b. June 22, 1726.

46. MARTHA, b. February 23, 1687-8; m. Elisha Peck of Rehoboth, Feb. 23, 1703-4. He was a son of Nicholas Peck and was b. April 4, 1683.

Children, b. in Rehoboth:—

MARTHA, b. Oct. 13, 1705; d. May 2, 1706.

JOEL, b. June 1, 1707.

JERUSHA, b. June 11, 1708.

EUNICE, b. March 12, 1710-11.

INSPERSION, b. Feb. 22, 1712-13.

CONSTANTINE, b. May 26, 1715.

MARTHA, b. April 8, 1717.

NICHOLAS, b. April 30, 1719, in Attleborough.

MARY, b. Aug. 31, 1724, in Attleborough.

9 Martha Wild born in Topsfield, May 13, 1660, was living in 1676, when her brother John made his will, but the only other mention of Martha Wild is contained in a deed disposing of his property, which his brother-in-law, Edward Bishop, signed "for his own share & Interest in said lands & y<sup>e</sup> share Interest & claim of Martha Wild which was y<sup>e</sup> right he bought of her" (December 14, 1685). From this record, it would appear that she was living, unmarried, in 1685.





11 Ephraim Wild was born in Topsfield, in December, 1665. He married Mary Howlett, March 18, 1689-9. In 1689, he was one of the selectmen of Topsfield and in 1692 he became town treasurer and constable. The story of his connection with the Witchcraft Delusion has already been told in the biography of his mother—a story which shows him to have been a man of truly noble character. He lived in the family homestead in Topsfield which his father deeded to him in 1690, and occupied a prominent position in the affairs of the town. He is several times dignified with the titles, Mr. and Quartermaster in the town and county records. The following story is obtained from the town records and illustrates the duties imposed upon him during his term of office as constable. When the minister's rate for 1692 was being collected, Constable Wild had trouble in obtaining this tax from an Irishman, Nealand by name, who lived on the boundary line between Topsfield and Ipswich. Whenever the constable called, Nealand was sure to be found in the Ipswich side of his house. Finally the constable, with several other Topsfield men, visited the pig pen of the delinquent, and the minister received his rate in pork. Soon after this incident, the town sued Goodwife Nealand for defaming the whole town of Topsfield. In the latter part of his life, he served as selectman in 1714, 1720, and 1722. Tradition states that before his death, which occurred on April 2, 1725, he saw his thirteen living children gathered about his fireside. His will follows:—

Knowing that it is appointed for all Men to Dye and being under Infirmary and Weekness of Body and sensible of my own Mortality Do make this My Last Will Confirming this and none other. First I give and bequeath My Soul to Almighty God who first gave itt being, and my body to be Deceantly buried att the Direction of my Executors hereafter named nothing Doubting but I Shall receive again att the Resurrection and as for what Worldly estate itt hath Pleased God to bless me with all I Dispose off itt in manner following.

Item. I Do give and bequeath to My Well beloved Wife Mary Willds all my household goods and two Cows





for her own use and to dispose of as Shee Shall See Most Convenient Amongst my Children and also I give to my beloved Wife the Liberty of one End of my Dwelling house together with the Improvement of one third Part of all My land So long as Shee Shall Remain my Widow, but in case Shee Shall See cause to marry again that then Shee Shall have Twenty pounds Paid to her by my Executors, hereafter named and my will is that then Shee Shall Resigne up all her Right of Dower or Power of third in my Real Estate to My Sons John and Ephraim whom I Do appoint and Constitute to be My Sole Executors to this My last Will and Testament.

Item. I Do give to my Son John and to my Son Ephraim all my buildings and all my lands both Meadow and Upland with all the priviledges and Appertances thereunto belonging together with My Rights of Land in Common and also I Do give to My Sons John and Ephraim all my Stock of Cattle (Excepting the two Cows before given) and all my Sheep and Horses (Excepting the black Colt which I Do give to my Son Elijah) and also I Do give to My Sons John and Ephraim all my utensils of husbandry they Paying all My Just Debts and Such Legacies as I shall order them to Pay in this my Last Will.

Item I Do Give to My Son Johnathan Sixty Pounds to be Paid by my Executors within two years after my Decease which is for his portion out of My Estate.

Item I Do Give to My Son Jacob Sixty Pounds to be Paid by My Executors within two years after My Decease which is for his portion out of My Estate.

Item I Do Give to My Son Samuel Sixty Pounds, to be paid by My Executors when he Shall come to the age of Twenty one years itt Being for his Portion

Item I Do Give to My Son Nathan Sixty Pounds, to be paid by My Executors when he Shall come to the age of Twenty one years itt Being for his Portion

Item I Do Give to My Son Amos Sixty Pounds, to be paid by My Executors when he Shall come to the age of Twenty one years itt Being for his Portion

Item I Do Give to My Son Elijah Sixty Pounds, to be paid by My Executors when he Shall come to the age of Twenty one years itt being for his portion





Item I Do Give to My Daughter Mary Perkins Twenty Pounds besides what Shee hath already had to be paid by My Executors: in four years after My Decease which is for her portion.

Item I Do Give to My Daughter Susannah Town Twenty Pounds beside what Shee hath already had to be paid by My Executors: in four years after My Decease which is for her portion.

Item I Do Give to My Daughter Dorothy Perkins Twenty Pounds besides what Shee hath already had to be paid by My Executors: in four years after My Decease itt being for her Portion.

Item I Do Give to My Daughter Priscilla Twenty Pounds to be Paid by My Executors when Shee Shall come to the Age of Twenty one years or the Day of her Marriage.

Item I Do Give to My Daughter Hannah Thirty Pounds to be paid when Shee Shall come to the age of Twenty one years or att her Marriage If Shee be married Sooner. But in case any of My children that are under age Should Dye before they come of age to Receive their Portion that then my Will is that what Should have been Paid to them Shall be Divided amongst the Surviving brothers and Sisters and also my Will is that If any of My Children that are of age Should Dye before the time Sett for payment of there Portion that then itt shall be Paid to thir Heires, and itt is to be Noted that notwithstanding, all My buildings and Lands are given to My Son John & My Son Ephraim itt is to be understood that they are not to Debar or hinder their Mother of any Privilidges given to her in My home or Land. In Confirmation of all that is before Written in this Will I have hereunto affixed My hand and Seal this Second Day of April one thousand Seven hundred and Twenty five.

Signed Sealed and Delivered In                      Ephraim Wildes  
the Presence of John Howlett

Joseph Andrews Jacob Peabody

Mary Howlett, daughter of Samuel and Sarah (Clark) Howlett, was born in Topsfield February 17, 1671. Samuel Howlett was a son of Ensign Thomas Howlett, one of



the earliest and most prominent settlers of Ipswich and Topsfield. Mrs. Sarah (Clark) Howlett was a daughter of Daniel and Mary (Newbury) Clark, and a granddaughter of Mr. Thomas Newbury. At the death of her father in 1720, Mary (Howlett) Wilds inherited a portion of his books. She died May 17, 1758. Her will, made April 28, 1758, mentions her son Ephraim, to whom she left her "old loom and the cubbard and the great table in consideration that he has ever found me with flax and wood," sons Jonathan and Nathan, daughters Priscilla Averill and Hannah Averill, and son-in-law Jacob Averill.

Children, born in Topsfield :—

47. JOHN, b. June 25, 1690.
48. MARY, bp. March 13, 1691-2.
49. EPHRAIM, bp. Sept. 3, 1693.
50. JONATHAN, b. Oct. 21, 1695.
51. SUSANNAH, b. Oct. 20, 1697.
52. SARAH, b. March 27, 1699.
53. DOROTHY, b. Dec. 15, 1700.
54. JACOB, b. Aug. 31, 1702.
55. PRISCILLA, b. Aug. 12, 1704; d. Aug. 3, 1705.
56. PRISCILLA, b. March 3, 1708.
57. SAMUEL, b. March 2, 1708.
58. HANNAH, b. Oct. 8, 1709.
59. AMOS, b. June 28, 1711; d. July 25, 1726.
60. NATHAN, b. Aug. 5, 1713.
61. JULIENEA, b. Feb. 21, 1716; d. March 21, 1716-17.
62. ELIJAH, b. Jan. 4, 1717-18.

47 Capt. John Wildes born in Topsfield, June 25, 1690, was prominent in town affairs, and served as selectman in 1730, '31, '33, '37, '39, '41, and 1745-50. He was a carpenter by trade and on the town records for December 27, 1720, the following statement appears: "alowed to John Willds for makeing the Towns Stooock and for finding y<sup>e</sup> Iorns and Lock and bringing them to the meeting house and for seeting up sd stooocks £1 4s." In 1725 he was executor of his father's estate, and guardian of his brothers Amos and Elijah. His house was situated on Meeting-house Lane, and is described in the direct tax of 1798, as two stories high, covering 1280 square feet, and





having 17 windows. The house was destroyed in 1864. John Wildes, "Gentleman," died September 27, 1750. His will leaves all his property in Topsfield, Ipswich, and Boxford to his son Elisha, with the exception of the land bought of the Averills, and five acres on Great Hill and in Bradstreet's meadow, which went to his son John. His armor was willed to Elisha Wildes. His estate was valued at £1045. 3. 8.

"Widow Pheebe Wildes an aged woman" died September 30, 1765. No record has been found of their marriage. Daughters named Phoebe, of whom no further record of marriage or death remains, were born about 1690 in the Redington, French, Smith, and Bixby families.

Children, born in Topsfield:

63. JOHN, b. Nov. 1, 1715.

64. KATHERINE, b. Jan. 27, 1716-17; d. Oct. 12, 1800. The following obituary appeared in the Salem Gazette on Oct. 24, 1800. "Died. At Topsfield, Oct. 12. Miss Catherine Wildes, aged 84 . . . Whose amiable and benevolent deportment through life secured her the esteem and affection of her acquaintance, and entitled her to the honorable appellation of 'a mother in Israel,' although she had neither husband nor children."

65. ZEBULON, b. Dec. 19, 1718.

66. ELISHA, b. Sept. 23, 1720.

67. EZRA, b. May 23, 1722; d. June 11, 1722.

68. SARAH, b. May 5, 1723; m. George Start, May 15, 1744. George, son of William and Mercy (Figg) Start, was born in Ipswich, Aug. 23, 1719. He settled in Boxford, but moved to Topsfield in 1750, where he was taxed for two years. He then returned to Boxford where he lived until 1758, when he moved to New Ipswich, N. H. He died in New Ipswich, about 1800.

Children, born in Boxford:—

SARAH, b. July 4, 1745.

WILLIAM, b. March 24, 1747.

GEORGE, b. Dec. 16, 1748.

JOHN, b. Feb. 12, 1751, in Topsfield.

69. EPHRAIM, b. Aug. 25, 1725; d. Nov. 25, 1736. His death and that of his sister Mary were probably caused by the throat distemper, which proved fatal to hundreds of Essex County children in that year.



70. AMOS, b. Jan. 27, 1727-8.

71. MARY, b. July 24, 1729; d. Nov. 5, 1736.

48 Mary Wildes baptized in Topsfield, March 3, 1691-2, married Thomas Perkins, November 26, 1719. They removed to Arundel, now Kennebunkport, Maine. She returned to her old home about 1721, as the births of her first two children were recorded there. The French and Indian hostilities would give sufficient cause for retiring to a more thickly settled region. She died in Arundel, April 1, 1742. Her gravestone is still standing.

Thomas Perkins, son of Elisha and Katherine (Towne) Perkins, was born in Topsfield, October 15, 1681. His house in Arundel was a garrison. He died in 1761.

Children :—

72. JUDITH, bp. May, 1721; m. Benjamin Durrell.

73. THOMAS, bp. June 28, 1724; m. Susannah Hovey.

74. MARY, b. in 1728; m. Eliphalet Perkins, son of Capt. Thomas Perkins; d. Sept. 14, 1802.

75. SARAH, m. Israel Stone.

76. JOHN, d. young.

77. EPHRAIM, d. young.

49 Ephraim Wildes was baptised in Topsfield, September 3, 1692-3. He is said to have been a member of the third, and only successful expedition against the French and Indians at Norridgewock. If he settled in Arundel with his brothers, as the tradition states, he soon returned to his native town, for after 1730 his name appears frequently on the Topsfield records. He occupied the old Wildes homestead built by his grandfather. There seems to have been a boundary dispute between the Wildes and Daniel Redington families, for in 1731 Ephraim Wildes signed an agreement "to end strife" and to let the boundary remain as their forefathers had established it. On January 31, 1730-1, he married Hepsibah Peabody of Topsfield. He died April 3, 1767. The will of Ephraim Wildes, yeoman, made December 23, 1762, and probated April 28, 1767, left all his land, houses, cattle, horses, sheep, farming utensils, and armor to his sons Thomas and Moses. His estate was valued at £704.5.10. Among





the interesting items mentioned in his inventory is "an hour glass."

Hepsibah Peabody, daughter of Isaac and Sarah (Estes?) Peabody, was born in Topsfield, May 25, 1709. She died of consumption, December 23, 1783.

Children, born in Topsfield:

78. THOMAS, b. May 20, 1732; d. Dec. 21, 1736.

79. JACOB, b. Nov. 6, 1733.

80. DOROTHY, b. April 28, 1736. She m. Joseph Andrews, April 10, 1760, and d., his widow, Feb. 15, 1813. Her gravestone is standing in Pine Grove Cemetery. Joseph Andrews was a son of Joseph and Hepzibah (Porter) Andrews and was b. Oct. 14, 1717. He lived on his father's homestead in the ancient French house, which was built in 1675, and is still standing near the Dry Bridge. He d. Oct. 16, 1785.

Children, b. in Topsfield:—

HEPSIBAH, b. Jan. 10, 1760.

JOSEPH, b. May 27, 1763.

SALOME, b. Oct. 20, 1765.

EPHRAIM, b. April 7, 1772.

81. THOMAS, b. March 9, 1737-8.

82. MOSES, b. July 30, 1740.

83. EPHRAIM (twin), b. June 23, 1743; d. July 3, 1743.

84. ELIJAH (twin), b. June 23, 1743; d. July 6, 1743.

85. MARY, b. June 23, 1744; m. Zebulon Perkins, Sept. 22, 1767, and d. March 23, 1830. Zebulon, son of Jacob and Hannah (Borman) Perkins, was b. Jan. 15, 1740. He died Sept. 22, 1810.

Children:—

MARY, b. July 19, 1768.

EPHRAIM, b. Feb. 5, 1770.

ABEL, b. Sept. 15, 1771.

EUNICE, b. July 6, 1773; d. Sept. 23, 1777.

ZEBULON, b. June 3, 1775; d. Sept. 21, 1777.

SARAH, b. May 3, 1777.

HANNAH, b. Oct. 5, 1778.

ELISHA, b. Jan. 3, 1781.

JACOB, b. Feb. 24, 1783.

ANNA, b. Feb. 1, 1786.

ELIJAH, b. May 11, 1791.

86. HEPsIBAH, b. Nov. 28, 1746; m. Lot Conant of Ipswich, June 4, 1786. The Conant Genealogy gives the date as March 10, 1768, and says that Hepzibah Wildes was the mother



of six children of Lot Conant. There seems to be no reason to doubt the Topsfield record, however, especially as two of the children given in the Conant Genealogy are stated to have been children of Lot and Eunice Conant in their death records. Lot, son of Joshua and Jerusha (Cummings) Conant, was b. in Ipswich, Dec. 21, 1746. He was in Capt. Brown's Company at Providence, R. I., Jan. 1, 1779. (Mass. Archives, Muster Rolls, Vol. 41, p. 92.)

87. HANNAH, b. May 10, 1749; m. Nathaniel Averill, her cousin, (pub. Sept. 8, 1776), and survived him, dying Oct. 28, 1816. Nathaniel, son of Capt. Nathaniel and Hannah (Wildes) Averill, was b. April 27, 1740. He was a yeoman and a wheelwright, and lived in Topsfield. His first wife was Dorothy Perkins, whom he m. Dec. 16, 1766 and who d. May 6, 1767, aged 17 y. He d. in 1811.

Children, b. in Topsfield :—

AZARIAH, b. Feb. 11, 1778.

AMMI, b. Aug. 17, 1779.

LYDIA, b. March 3, 1782.

DOROTHY, bp. April 2, 1784.

MOSES, b. June 5, 1786.

**50 Jonathan Wildes** was born in Topsfield, October 21, 1695. Tradition states that he was at the capture of Norridgewock, in 1724, with three of his brothers. He settled in Arundel, Me. about 1730, and kept an inn there, although his occupation at Topsfield had been that of a carpenter. In 1733, he sold seventeen acres of land in Topsfield to his brother John for three hundred pounds. His wife was named Elizabeth.

Child, born in Topsfield :

- 88 NATHANIEL, b. April 23, 1727.

**51 Susannah Wildes** born in Topsfield, October 20, 1697, m. Benjamin Towne, April 12, 1722. A few months before her death, which occurred July 5, 1736, she gave birth to three healthy boys, all of whom lived to be men. Benjamin Towne, son of Joseph and Amy (Smith) Towne, was born in Topsfield, May 10, 1691. His first wife was Katherine, daughter of Jacob Towne, Jr. After the death of his second wife, Susannah Wildes, he married Mary Perkins, May 2, 1738, and fourth, Mrs. Mary Clark, April 15, 1761. He acquired a large estate, and became





prominent in the politics of the town, holding the offices of town clerk, selectmen, etc. He died February 11, 1772.

Children, born in Topsfield :

89. BENJAMIN, b. May 12, 1723.
90. EPHRAIM, b. July 10, 1725.
91. JACOB (twin), b. March 7, 1727-8.
92. JOSEPH (twin), b. March 7, 1727-8.
93. ELI, b. March 3, 1730-31.
94. SUSANNAH, b. Sept. 6, 1733.
95. EDMUND (triplet), b. April 30, 1736.
96. EZRA (triplet), b. April 30, 1736.
97. ELIJAH (triplet), b. April 30, 1736.

52 Sarah Wildes born in Topsfield, March 27, 1699; m. Jonathan Perkins, January 2, 1718-19. Either before her marriage, or very soon afterward, she lived with Mary (Perkins), widow of William Howlett, who mentioned on her will her "cousin Sarah Wildes now Perkins" who had lived with her, and bequeathed to her a brass kettle, an iron kettle, and one half of her estate that she had not already disposed of. Sarah never received her legacy, for her cousin outlived her many years. Jonathan Perkins, son of Timothy and Hannah Perkins, was born in Topsfield, January 29, 1692-3. He married second, Elizabeth Potter (Porter?) of Salem, December 11, 1722. He died June 2, 1749. The gravestone in Pine Grove Cemetery bearing the following inscription, is undoubtedly that of Sarah (Wildes) Perkins. "Hear Laes the Body of Sarah Perkins who Departed This Life January y<sup>e</sup> 21 Day 1719-20 Aged 20 Years & 9 Months & 24 Days."

53 Dorothy Wildes born in Topsfield, December 15, 1700; married John Perkins about 1725; and died before 1736. John Perkins, son of Timothy and Abigail Perkins, was born in Topsfield, June 2, 1700. He married for his second wife Widow Martha Robinson, June 18, 1736. She died August 16, 1736. He married Jemima Averill, February 14, 1737-8, and she died March 2, 1749. He died February 7, 1780.

Child, born in Topsfield :



98. STEPHEN, b. March 7, 1725-6. He was very prominent at the time of the Revolution, and was a member of the committee of three appointed to draft instructions for the town's representative at the outbreak of the war. He commanded a company, with the rank of Captain. In town politics he held the offices of constable, juryman, tythingman, selectman, clerk and representative. He died Oct. 23, 1790.

54 Jacob Wildes born in Topsfield, August 31, 1702, married Ruth Foster of Ipswich, and moved to Arundel, Me. Tradition states that he was a member of the expedition which was sent to destroy the Indian settlement at Norridgewock and to capture Father Rasle, the Jesuit priest, who for many years had incited the savages to attack and slaughter the English settlers. The New England force of one hundred men, many of them from Arundel, attacked the Indian village in August, 1724, and plundered it, after killing Father Rasle. After this battle, the danger from the Indians gradually abated, although for many years murders were committed and homes pillaged on the borders of the Maine towns. In 1728, Jacob Wildes was one of the proprietors of Arundel. He was a member of the committee to settle the dividing line between Arundel and Saco, March 29, 1732.

The following entries are found in the town book:—

“Jacob Willdes Chosen Constable for y<sup>e</sup> year Ensuing & Sworn,” 1734.

Jacob Willdes chosen selectman, 1735.

“At a Lawfull Town Meeting feb<sup>r</sup> ye 10<sup>th</sup> 1735/6 voted to Jacob Willds fifty Six Shillings for his going to York Court Jan<sup>r</sup> y<sup>e</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> 1735/6.

Jacob Willds chosen selectman 1735/6.

Jacob Willds chosen “Survair of High ways,” 1738.

Jacob Willds chosen selectman, 1741.

“Jacob Willds, John Burbank was chosen to Prosecute the breakers of the Law Relating to y<sup>e</sup> Preserving of y<sup>e</sup> Deer & Sworn, 1741.”

Jacob Willds chosen selectman, 1743.

His original estate in Arundel seems to have been one-half of the four hundred and fifty acres sold by James





Mussey to Joseph Averill and Jacob Wildes, January 16, 1727/8. Three quarters of a sawmill was also included in the sale. (York Deeds, Vol. 12, p. 251.) He is called millman until 1733, when he sold one-half of the mill to Thomas Perkins. (York Deeds, Vol. 16, p. 105.) In 1734 and 1735, he purchased in company with Moses Foster, four hundred acres of land in Arundel from Joseph and Benjamin Jeffrey of Lynn. (York Deeds, Vol. 17, pp. 78 & 153.) In these deeds he is called coaster, and husbandman. He died about 1774, and the administration of his estate was granted to his widow, Ruth Wildes, and his son Jacob Wildes, mariner, October 10, 1774.

Ruth Foster, daughter of Ebenezer and Mary (Borman) Foster, was born in Ipswich, January 23, 1709/10.

Children:

99. JACOB.
100. JOHN.
101. EPHRAIM.
102. MARY, m. Ebenezer Emmons.
103. RUTH, m. Jacob, son of Miles and Mary (Huff) Rhodes of Kennebunkport. Children:—Alice, Louisa, Sally, Jacob, Moses, Polly, Lydia, John, Olive.
104. DOROTHY, m. Gideon, son of Abel and Mary (Harding) Merrill of Arundel. Children:—Abel, Ruth, Jemima, Jacob.

**56 Priscilla Wildes** born in Topsfield, March 3, 1706, married Jacob Averill, her cousin, about 1728. She is mentioned in the will of her mother in 1758. She died May 17, 1799 (May 22, Church Record). Jacob Averill, son of Nathaniel and Sarah (Howlett) Averill, was born in Topsfield, August 17, 1702. He was a yeoman and lived in Topsfield, where he died June 15, 1791.

Children, born in Topsfield:

105. JACOB, b. March 18, 1728-9.
106. DANIEL, b. Dec. 3, 1730.
107. DOROTHY, b. Feb. 24, 1731-2.
108. LYDIA, b. July 2, 1735.
109. MARY, b. Aug. 1, 1739.
110. PRISCILLA, b. July 1, 1742; d. March 29, 1781.
111. AMOS, b. Mar. 25, 1747.



**57 Samuel Wildes** was born in Topsfield, March 2, 1708. He is said to have been at the capture of Norridge-wock with two of his brothers. He settled in Arundel, Me. where there was a large Topsfield colony, and was for several years employed as schoolmaster. (Bradbury's History of Kennebunkport.) In 1735 he was called carpenter, and in 1748, husbandman. He purchased one hundred acres of land in Arundel from Jonathan Philbrook, December 1, 1728. (York Deeds, Vol. 15, p. 211.) His will, made March 6, 1760, probated July 7, 1760, mentions his wife, Elizabeth, sons Samuel and John (minors), daughters Mary, Hannah, and Sarah (minors), daughter Elizabeth Deshon, and granddaughter, Susannah Weeks.

Children :

112. **SUSANNAH**, m. Nicholas Weeks of Kittery. They lived in Arundel. She d. in 1757. He m. second, Phoebe Averill. Child:—Susannah, m. George Ayer.
113. **ELIZABETH**, m. James Deshon before 1760. He was a son of James and Chasey (Perkins) Deshon. James Deshon, Sr. was a Frenchman, who came to Arundel about 1730. Children:—Daniel, Susannah, John, Thomas, Samuel, James, Elizabeth.
114. **SAMUEL**.
115. **JOHN**, died, unm., on board a Salem privateer during the Revolutionary war.
116. **SARAH**, m. — Pitts. (Bradbury.)
117. **HANNAH**, m. Peter Deshon, son of James and Chasey (Perkins) Deshon, a brother of James Deshon, who m. her sister Elizabeth. Children:—Samuel, Hannah, Joseph, Benjamin, Stephen, David, Jonathan, Lydia.
118. **MARY**, m. Daggar Mitchell, an Irishman, about 1769. This family moved from Arundel. Children:—Richard, John, Mary.

**58 Hannah Wildes** was born in Topsfield, October 8, 1709. She was apparently her father's favorite daughter, as she received a larger legacy than the others in his will. She married Nathaniel Averill, November 24, 1734, and died his widow May 22, 1790. Capt. Nathaniel Averill son of Nathaniel and Sarah (Howlett) Averill, was born in Topsfield, September 6, 1700. He was a housewright, and lived in Topsfield, where he died August 17, 1751.





## Children born in Topsfield:

119. NATHANIEL, b. April 27, 1747.

120. HANNAH, b. Aug. 17, 1750.

**60 Nathan Wildes** was born in Topsfield, August 5, 1713. December 11, 1738, he bought of Thomas Averill for one hundred and four pounds, a tract of meadow and upland in Topsfield. In his sixty-ninth year, he was adjudged *non compos mentis*, and Samuel Smith appointed as his guardian. His near relatives Elisha, Moses, and Ephraim Wildes, and Nathaniel Averill are mentioned. He died July 10, 1783, "of a complication of disorders." An inventory, amounting to £165, mentions many cooper's tools.

**62 Elijah Wilds** was born in Topsfield, January 4, 1717/18. He married Anna Hovey May 15, 1744, and moved to Shirley, a part of Groton. When the Shaker religion was introduced into America by Ann Lee, this family, among others in Shirley, was converted to the new faith, and the Shaker Village has been built on his estate. A tradition remains that he settled his estate on his sons Ivory and Elijah, and lived with the latter, who occupied the family mansion. (Chandler's History of Shirley.) He died April 6, 1791. In this branch of the family the name is commonly spelled Wilds. Anna Hovey, daughter of Capt. Ivory and Anne (Pingree) Hovey, was born September 21, 1720. She died March 16, 1806.

## Children:

121. ELIJAH, b. Nov. 10, 1745; d. Dec. 27, 1745.

122. ELIJAH, b. Nov. 9, 1746.

123. ANNA, b. Feb. 15, 1749; m. Elijah Wheelock of Lancaster, July 14, 1774. She died Sept. 28, 1838, a Shaker. Child:—Olive Wilds, b. June 25, 1775; d. Sept. 21, 1841, a Shaker.

124. IVORY, b. Nov. 27, 1751.

125. MOLLY, b. Dec. 27, 1754; m. Samuel Randall of Stowe, in 1774. Children:—Ivory, Eunice, Samuel.

126. OLIVE, b. Apr. 7, 1757; d. June 2, 1775.

127. PHOEBE, b. Feb. 15, 1761. She m. Levi, son of John and Prudence (Wheelock) Warner of Lancaster, who was b. May 22, 1761. They had one child when they joined the Shakers. He died June 27, 1825. After her husband's death, Mrs. Warner left the sect, and died Dec. 7, 1837. Child:—Elijah, b. Mar 20, ———; d. July 14, 1814, a Shaker.



**63 John Wildes** born in Topsfield, Nov. 1, 1715, married Sarah Rogers, Sept. 29, 1742. On March 5, 1738, he bought of John Averill a two-story house on Ridge Street in Topsfield, which Averill had built in 1730. The house, which is still standing, remained in the Wildes family until 1833. He died October 28, 1760. The administration of his estate was granted to his widow, Sarah Wildes, Dec. 15, 1760. Among the interesting items in his inventory, dated Jan. 2, 1761, are "Books," "a Pew in the Meeting House," and "War Armes." Sarah (Rogers) Wildes died April 23, 1810, aged 89 years. Her daughter-in-law, Mrs. Lydia Wildes was appointed administratrix of her estate September 7, 1812.

Children :

128. SARAH (?). A Sarah Wildes m. Nathaniel Dorman July 2, 1765. Nathaniel, son of Joseph and Abigail (Porter) Dorman, was b. Mar. 31, 1740. He died Oct. 13, 1770. No children are recorded.
129. EPHRAIM, b. 1745; m. June 6, 1810, Lydia, widow of John Wright; d. Mar. 28, 1812, aged 67 y. No children. She m. (int. Jan. 9, 1820) Dea. John Platts of Rowley.
130. PHOEBE (?), b. 1747. A Phoebe Wilds m. Jacob Kimball in Jan., 1795. Jacob, son of Jacob and Sarah (Hale) Kimball, was b. in Andover in 1731. He m. first, Priscilla Smith, July 15, 1756. Jan. 5, 1765, Jacob Kimball "chosen to set ye Psalms, to sit in ye elders seat." He was a soldier in the Revolution. He d. Nov. 8, 1810. Phoebe (Wildes) Kimball, d. July 18, 1808, aged 62 y. (aged 60 y. gravestone.) She had no children.

**65. Zebulon Wildes** born in Topsfield, December 19, 1718, married Margaret Hazen, August 18, 1743. He was a witness to the will of his grandmother, Mrs. Mary Wildes in 1758. He lived in Topsfield and Boxford, where he owned a house. He died in Topsfield, October 14, 1804. Margaret Hazen, daughter of John and Marcy (Bradstreet) Hazen, was born July 16, 1716.

Children :

131. MOLLY, b. Sept. 5, 1745, in Boxford; d. unm., Feb. 4, 1830, "at the Almshouse" in Topsfield.
132. PEGGY, bp. July 12, 1747; d. unm. Feb. 8, 1832, "at the Almshouse."





133. ZEBULON, b. May 19, 1750, in Boxford; d. Sept. 14, 1751, in Boxford.  
 134. MERCY, b. Oct. 7, 1753, in Topsfield; d. unm., June 6, 1839, in Topsfield.  
 135. JOHN, b. Apr. 14, 1756, in Topsfield.  
 136. EZRA, b. Feb. 24, 1768, in Topsfield.

**66 Elisha Wildes** was born in Topsfield, September 23, 1720. He inherited from his father the family homestead, built by Capt. John Wildes, and lived there until his death, June 26, 1787. He married Mary Bradstreet, February 27, 1754. He served as selectman, 1768-9. Mary Bradstreet, daughter of Simon and Elizabeth (Capen) Bradstreet, was born in Topsfield, May 10, 1731.

She was a granddaughter of Rev. Joseph Capen, and a descendant of Governors Dudley, and Bradstreet. She died November 14, 1810.

Children, born in Topsfield :

137. SYLVANUS, b. May 6, 1754.  
 138. MEHITABLE, b. Nov. 30, 1756; d. unm., March 9, 1840.  
 139. SARAH, b. Feb. 10, 1761; d. unm., April 1, 1840.

**70 Amos Wildes** born in Topsfield, January 27, 1727-8, married Hannah Perkins, February 5, 1750-1. He lived in Topsfield, and died there May 24, 1779 of smallpox. His son, Dudley Wildes, was appointed administrator of his estate December 6, 1779. His property was valued at £34,528.12. Hannah Perkins, daughter of Jonathan and Elizabeth (Porter?) Perkins, was born in Topsfield, January 16, 1727/8. December 20, 1779, "Hannah Wildes relict widow of Amos Wildes, departed this life in a sudden & surprising manner, by means of her own using." She committed suicide by hanging.

Children, born in Topsfield :

140. MARY, b. February 7, 1752; m. Moses Conant of Ipswich, June 29, 1779. He was b. in Ipswich about 1749. He served in the battle of Lexington under Capt. How.

Children:—

- LOIS, bp. July 16, 1780, in Topsfield.  
 MATILDA, bp. May 5, 1782.  
 WILLIAM, bp. Oct. 16, 1785.  
 ASA WILDES, b. about 1788.



141. LOIS, bp. July 22, 1753; d. June 7, 1779, of smallpox.
142. AMOS, bp. Feb. 16, 1755.
143. ASA, bp. July 31, 1757.
144. DUDLEY, bp. Jan. 7, 1759.
145. "TAMME," bp. April 11, 1762; m. Bethiah Harris; d. April 17, 1776.

**79 Jacob Wildes**, born in Topsfield, November 6, 1733, married Mrs. Martha Day of Ipswich (int. June 5, 1755). He died July 14, 1757, "at Fort Edward" apparently while serving in the army during the French War. His widow, Martha Wildes, married Thomas Perkins, Jr., January 24, 1760.

Child:

146. LYDIA, b. Sept. 14, 1756. She was mentioned in the will of her grandfather, Ephraim Wildes. She m. Archaleus Perkins, at Boxford, June 18, 1778. They moved to Dunbarton, N. H. He was born April 4, 1756, and d. Feb. 13, 1825. Children:—Archelaus, Lydia, Hannah, Daniel, Thomas, Sally, Jacob, David.

**81 Thomas Wildes**, born in Topsfield, March 9, 1737/8, married Anna Batchelder, at Wenham, May 12, 1761. He died November 15, 1781, "of a lethargy." The administration of his estate was granted to his widow, Anna Wildes, March 4, 1782. His property was valued at £443.19.10. Books and armor figure in his inventory. Anna Batchelder, daughter of Ebenezer and Jerusha (Kimball) Batchelder, was born in Wenham, May 14, 1740/1.

Children, born in Topsfield:

147. JACOB, b. June 20, 1762.
148. DANIEL, bp. Aug. 11, 1765.
149. HULDAH, bp. June 28, 1767; m. Jacob Peabody of Topsfield, Nov. 15, 1785. Jacob, son of Jacob and Sarah (Potter) Peabody, was b. May 10, 1764. He was a miller. He d. Oct. 6, 1845. She d. June 30, 1811. 11 children.

**82 Moses Wildes**, born in Topsfield, July 30, 1740, married December 12, 1775, at Linebrook Parish, Mrs. Susannah Deering of Ipswich; yeoman. He owned and occupied the original Wildes homestead, built by his great-grandfather, John Wild, and died July 24, 1810. Susan-





nah (Deering) Wildes died February 20, 1837, aged 85 years, 6 months.

Children, born in Topsfield:

150. MOSES (twin), b. Aug. 4, 1777.
151. HUMPHREY (twin), b. Aug. 4, 1777.
152. EPHRAIM, b. March 4, 1782.
153. SUSANNAH, b. Feb. 20, 1785; m. Cyrus Cummings of Topsfield, May 25, 1809, and d. Jan. 7, 1852. Cyrus Cummings, son of Joseph and Anna (Gove) Cummings, was b. July 30, 1782. He kept the famous Topsfield Hotel, and was prominent in town affairs, holding all the offices within the gift of the town. He d. April 26, 1827.

Children:—

SUSAN, b. Aug. 20, 1810; m. Rev. Martin Moore of Boston.

MARY ANN, b. May 16, 1813.

CYRUS, b. Nov. 24, 1816.

CATHERINE, b. April 21, 1819; d. Feb. 20, 1820.

HUMPHREY, b. Feb. 27, 1822.

154. SOLOMON, b. May 1, 1791.

**88 Nathaniel Wildes** was born in Topsfield, April 23, 1727. He moved with his father to Arundel, Maine, and kept a tavern there. He married Lydia Griffin in Topsfield, Nov. 1, 1749. He was called "tailor" in 1752. January 3, 1764, he was appointed guardian of his cousin John, son of Samuel Wildes. The date of his death is unknown. His widow Lydia Wildes was appointed administratrix of his estate, April 11, 1768. His property amounted to £239. 1. 6. Among the items of the inventory were the following: "2 pr silver buckles," "1 great Bible," "one small Bible and other old Books." His widow married Thomas Dempsey.

Children, born at Arundel:

155. MARY, b. Feb. 21, 1752; m. John Davis, Oct. 6, 1776.
156. ELIZABETH, b. June 10, 1756; m. Stephen Seavey, Sept. 1, 1774. He was a son of Nicholas and Hannah (Leach) Seavey of Arundel.
157. LYDIA, b. Feb. 14, 1758; m. Josiah Hutchings, May 25, 1784.
158. BENJAMIN, b. May 14, 1762; m. Sarah Davis.



99 Jacob Wildes born about 1728, was a mariner and lived in Arundel, where his father conveyed to him a house and fifty acres of land on Miller's brook, on April 18, 1755. He married, first, Abigail Stevens, and, second, Lydia Banks of Saco, July 8, 1772. He was Representative from the town in 1777, and from 1792 to 1796. In his will, made April 21, 1803, he mentions his sons Joseph and William, his daughters Sarah Gillpatrick, Lucy Durrell, and his granddaughters Susannah, Elizabeth, and Abigail Wildes. Abigail Stevens was a daughter of Moses and Lucy (Wheelwright) Stevens.

Children:

159. SARAH, m. Christopher Gillpatrick, son of William and Martha (Thompson) Gillpatrick. He was b. in 1751.

160. JACOB, d. young.

161. JACOB. He was in Col. Furney's regiment at Lake Champlain in 1776. He afterwards was commander of the privateer schooner Greyhound, 8 guns; the privateer Hawk, 6 guns; and the ship General Greene, 16 guns. He was lost at sea in 1785, between Martha's Vineyard and Boston.

162. LUCY, m. Jacob Durrell, son of Benjamin and Judith (Perkins) Durrell, Dec. 30, 1783.

163. ISRAEL.

164. WILLIAM.

165. JOSEPH.

166. A child who d. young.

100 John Wildes was a mariner, and lived in Arundel. He married Jane Stone. The administration of his estate was granted to his widow, Jane Wildes, on October 11, 1773. The amount of his inventory was £157. 4. 4. Among the items were "Delph Ware," "Hat & Wigg," "Quadrant & Sea Books." Jane Stone was a daughter of Dixey and Mary (Curtis) Stone of Arundel.

Children:

167. JOHN, d. young.

168. LYDIA, m. Alexander, son of Benjamin and Eunice (Lord) Thompson, April 8, 1784.

169. THOMAS.

170. DIXEY.





**101 Ephraim Wildes** lived in Arundel, and married Temperance Downing. Serg. Ephraim Wildes saw active service in the Revolutionary War, and died in Arundel about 1833. Temperance Downing was a daughter of Benjamin and Elizabeth (Fabyans) Downing.

Children :

- 171. EPHRAIM, d. young.
- 172. MARY, m. Elidicom, son of John and Elizabeth (Deering) Emmons, July 30, 1790.
- 173. ELIZABETH, m. Thomas Lee of Biddeford, Feb. 9, 1797.
- 174. LYDIA, d. young.
- 175. RUTH, m. Cleopas Smith of Biddeford, Feb. 12, 1804.
- 176. PHEBE, m. James Taylor, Jr., July 13, 1813.
- 177. JOHN.
- 178. JACOB.

**114 Samuel Wildes** married Olive Deshon, and lived in Arundel. Owing to the almost total lack of town records in Arundel, it is difficult to obtain much definite information concerning this branch of the family. He served in the Revolution, being drafted in October, 1776.

Children :

- 179. MEHITABLE, pub. to Daniel Hazen, Aug. 27, 1796.
- 180. SAMUEL.
- 181. EPHRAIM.
- 182. JOHN.
- 183. PERSIS, m. John Rhodes, Jr., Aug. 18, 1796.
- 184. JACOB.
- 185. ISAAC.
- 186. SARA. A Sarah Wildes m. Benjamin Adams, Jr., Dec. 18, 1794.
- 187. MARY.

**122 Elijah Wilds** born in Shirley, November 9, 1746, married Eunice Safford of Harvard, July 4, 1771. He joined the Shaker Society, and was appointed an elder at its organization in Shirley. He held this office until his death, March 14, 1829. His death was deeply felt by the members of the order, who had been under his teaching and supervision for many years. His funeral address is printed in Chandler's History of Shirley. Eunice (Safford) Wilds died November 11, 1819.



## Children, born in Shirley :

188. EUNICE, b. Oct. 11, 1772; d. May 29, 1855, a Shaker.  
 189. ABIGAIL, b. Oct. 1, 1774; m. Benjamin Willard of Harvard. She d. Oct. 12, 1848. Child:—Jerome Willard, b. Oct. 28, 1818.  
 190. OLIVE, b. Aug. 15, 1776. She left the Shakers, and m. Phineas Ames, who had also been a Shaker. She d. in Cambridge, Aug. 10, 1872. Child:—Mary Ames.  
 191. ANNA, b. Feb. 15, 1779; m. Flavel Coolidge, in 1800. They lived in Cambridge, and she d. there June 28, 1854. Children:—Herrick Coolidge, b. Oct. 8, 1806; Helen Coolidge; Martha Coolidge, b. Jan. 19, 1814.  
 192. MARTHA, b. Dec. 20, 1781; d. Jan. 23, 1827, unm.

**124 Ivory Wilds** born in Shirley, November 25, 1751, married Hannah Estabrook of Lancaster, April 3, 1777. He was converted to the Shaker faith, and was made a deacon of the sect. He died September 13, 1817.

## Children, born in Shirley :

193. NATHAN, b. April 14, 1778.  
 194. LEVI, b. June 9, 1782.

**136 Ezra Wildes** born in Topsfield, Feb. 24, 1758, married, first, July 12, 1785 in Boxford, Mary (Polly) Wright of Methuen; married, second, at Rowley, Dec. 4, 1800, Sally Phillips who died at Georgetown, Sept. 7, 1844, aged 75 years. He died Dec. 17, 1824 at Rowley, of consumption. Popularly known as "fiddler Wildes." Lived in Boxford and New Rowley, now Georgetown. Soldier in the Revolution.

## Children :

195. JAMES, b. April 2, 1790, at Rowley; m. Hannah Lefavour, int. Jan. 21, 1816 (Topsfield). He was then of Portsmouth, N. H.  
 195a. SARAH, m. — Spiller. Lived in New Hampshire.  
 196. EPHRAIM, b. March 20, 1801, at Rowley.  
 197. ASA, d. in infancy.  
 198. GREENE, b. July 21, 1806.  
 198a. ASA, b. about 1808. Probably died of yellow fever in 1838, in Charleston, S. C.  
 199. GEORGE, b. Nov., 1811.  
 200. CHARLES, b. Nov., 1814.  
 201. IRA, d. June 3, 1813, in Newbury, aged 26 years.





**137 Sylvanus Wildes** born in Topsfield, May 6, 1754, married (int. Feb. 11, 1781), Rebecca, daughter of Thomas and Sarah (Wade) Baker. She died Jan. 15, 1837, aged 83 years and 11 months. He died Nov. 19, 1829. Graduated at Harvard College in 1777. Lawyer. Lived in Topsfield in the two-story house that stood, until it was taken down in 1863-4, beside the narrow way now known as Meeting House Lane.

Children born in Topsfield :

- 202. CHARLES, b. Mar. 2, 1782; d. unm. Nov. 9, 1826.
- 203. JOHN, b. Feb. 9, 1784; d. unm. Feb. 4, 1849.
- 204. ELIZABETH, b. Mar. 11, 1787; m. Dec. 24, 1809, William Waitt.  
He was drowned at sea, Sept. 22, 1817. She d. Mar. 16, 1853.
- 205. SOPHIA, b. Mar. 16, 1789; m. Apr. 23, 1809, Jacob Towne, 3d.
- 206. CLARISSA, b. May 24, 1791; d. unm. Jan. 27, 1875.
- 207. ELISHA, b. Mar. 18, 1796; d. J 24, 1799.

**144 Dudley Wildes** born in Topsfield, Jan. 7, 1759, married May 1, 1782 (1781. Church Rd.), Bethia Harris. He died Jan. 21, 1820, and she died Feb. 25, 1833, aged 85 years. Yeoman and lived on what is now Wildes street, in the northeastern part of Topsfield near the Ipswich line.

Children born in Topsfield :

- 208. AMOS, b. May 5, 1782; m. July 8, 1819, Sally Burnham, children, born in Topsfield; Arethusa, b. Jan. 17, 1820, m. June 28, 1846, Joseph W. Legro of Danvers; Lydia Ann, b. June 18, 1821.
- 209. DUDLEY (twin), b. May, 1786.
- 210. ASA WALDO (twin), b. May, 1786.
- 211. ELIZABETH (Betsey); m. Jan. 21, 1835, David Hobbs, jr.
- 212. A child, d. bet. Oct. 1 and Dec. 31, 1793, Topsfield.

**148 Daniel Wildes** baptized in Topsfield, Aug. 11, 1765, married, Oct. 12, 1797, Eunice, daughter of Lot and Eunice Conant, of Ipswich. He died "suddenly," July 5, 1811, and she remained his widow for 53 years, dying in Boxford, Sept. 19, 1864, aged 94 years.

Children born in Topsfield :

- 213. JOSHUA, b. July 13, 1798, farmer; d. May 15, 1862.
- 214. SALLY, b. Dec. 17, 1799; d. unm. Sept. 12, 1820, consumption.
- 215. THOMAS, b. Mar. 2, 1802.
- 216. ISRAEL, b. Nov. 23, 1805.



217. MEHITABLE, b. July 7, 1807; m. May 9, 1826, Amos Andrews.

218. MOSES, b. Nov. 4, 1810.

**150** Moses Wildes born in Topsfield, Aug. 4, 1777, married, June 22, 1802, Esther Dwinell, daughter of John and Esther. He died Jan. 2, 1838, and she died Sept. 23, 1858, aged 79 years, 10 months. Yeoman.

Children, born in Topsfield :

219. ESTHER, b. Apr. 14, 1803; m. Feb. 23, 1823, Jeremiah Stone, M. D., and d. Feb. 16, 1876. Children: Esther Wildes, b. Dec. 16, 1828, m. Urban P. Hutchings, 3 children; Susan Alzea, b. Feb. 23, 1834, m. Mar. 26, 1865, George S. Mann, 2 children.

220. SUSAN, b. Oct. 28, 1804; d. unm. June 1, 1884.

221. JOSEPH, b. May 2, 1807; d. unm. Mar. 10, 1862.

222. MOSES, b. June 11, 1809; d. unm. in Topsfield, Nov. 5, 1889. In 1828 he removed to Boston and became associated with his uncle Solomon Wildes in the management of Wildes' Hotel, on Elm street, a widely-known resort for stages. He retired from active business in 1850 but kept up his Boston associations and was a well-known figure in State street. He was highly respected for his integrity and was very popular as a landlord. At his death bequests of considerable amount were made to local institutions and Boston charities.

223. THOMAS MEADY, b. April 7, 1812; d. April 17, 1812.

**151** Humphrey Wildes born in Topsfield, Aug. 4, 1779, married (int. April 8, 1804) Nabby Peabody, daughter of John and Lydia. She died Nov. 18, 1857, aged 76 years, 5 months, and he died Feb. 19, 1862. Farmer.

Children, born in Topsfield :

224. NABBY (bapt. Abigail), b. Nov. 7, 1806; m. July 1, 1833, John Wright; d. Oct. 19, 1851.

225. LUCINDA, b. Mar. 14, 1809; m. Dec. 11, 1849, John Todd.

226. HUMPHREY, b. May 11, 1814.

**152** Col. Ephraim Wildes born in Topsfield, Mar. 4, 1782, married, Apr. 8, 1807, Rachel Towne, daughter of Jacob and Rachel. He died Jan. 31, 1829, in Boston. His widow was insane at the last of her life, and committed suicide by hanging, April 15, 1830.

He was for many years proprietor of the Eastern Stage House on Ann street (now North street), Boston.





## Children, born in Topsfield :

227. WILLIAM, b. Apr. 17, 1808; m. Mary Ann Willis of Cambridge. He d. in Cambridge, Aug. 20, 1865. Children: George, Charles, Louisa, Alice.
228. EPHRAIM, b. Mar. 11, 1810; d. unm., Jan. 22, 1873.
229. LUCY ANN, b. Jan. 4, 1817; m. Thomas Gilbert Thornton of Saco, Me. She d. in Boston, April 7, 1883, s. p.
230. MOSES, b. Nov. 9, 1818; m. Caroline Willis of Boston; d. in Boston, Oct. 29, 1887, s. p. Engaged in the hotel business in Boston.
231. RACHEL, b. Mar. 30, 1823; m. Jan. 28, 1841, George W. Lewis of Boston. Children: George, b. Nov. 1, 1841; Charles, b. May 26, 1846.

154 Solomon Wildes born May 1, 1791, married, first, Oct. 4, 1818, Phebe Bradstreet, daughter of Moses and Lydia. She died Apr. 25, 1824, aged 26 years, and he married, second, Jan. 29, 1826, Ruth Bradstreet. She died in Boston, Jan. 7, 1874. He died in Boston, Oct. 22, 1867. For many years he was associated with his brother Ephraim in the hotel business in Boston.

## Child by first wife:

232. MOSES BRADSTREET, b. July 8, 1819, in Topsfield.

## Children by second wife, born in Boston :

233. PHEBE BRADSTREET, b. April 23, 1827; d. unm. Oct 23, 1868, in Boston.
234. CATHERINE, b. Mar. 9, 1829; m. William B. Richmond of Memphis, Tenn. She d. July 14, 1860.
235. HARRIET AMELIA, b. Feb. 19, 1837; m. John M. Welsh of Scotland. She d. Nov. 5, 1901.
236. RUTH ADELAIDE, b. April 2, 1840; m. Dec. 28, 1869, Herbert Beach of England.

196 Ephraim Wildes born in Rowley, Mar. 20, 1801, married at Boxford, June 6, 1822, Huldah Emerson of Boxford. He died in Georgetown, Aug. 4, 1838, and she married, second, June 13, 1842, William Tenney of Rowley.

## Children :

237. ELBRIDGE GERRY, b. Nov. 23, 1822 at Topsfield; m. Feb. 28, 1842, at Georgetown, Mary L. Rogers. He d. July 12, 1854, at Georgetown. She d. Apr. 10, 1857, at Rowley. Children: Lucretia, b. Aug. 14, 1848; Ira William, b. May 14, 1852.



- 238. GREENE, b. 1825-6.
- 239. A daughter, d. Dec. 28, 1826, at Rowley, at. 2 years.
- 240. SAMUEL P., b. 1831.
- 241. MARY E., b. 1833 in Rowley; m. Nov. 24, 1849, at Topsfield, Timothy W. Spiller, shoemaker.
- 242. LUTHER SHAW, b. in Ipswich.

**198 Greene Wildes** born July 21, 1806, married Oct. 10, 1831, at Rowley, Mary B., daughter of Jeremiah and Sarah (Barker) Jewett of Rowley. He died in Georgetown, Aug. 24, 1874. She died in Georgetown, Feb. 13, 1882, aged 74 years.

Children:

- 243. EDWARD PAYSON, b. Aug. 27, 1832, in Rowley; d. May 4, 1898, in Georgetown; m. April 16, 1857, Martha J. Dorman of Georgetown. Child: Charles Edward, b. May 11, 1858, who m. Nov. 12, 1881, Emma H. Rollins of Natick, and lives in Haverhill. Private in 50th Mass. Vols. in Civil War.
- 244. JEREMIAH JEWETT, b. May 21, 1834, in Rowley.
- 245. SARAH BARKER, b. Oct. 3, 1836, in Rowley; m. June, 1866, D. E. N. Carleton, of West Newbury; d. Mar. 1900. Children: Josephine, b. July 7, 1869, d. Sept. 2, 1871; Herbert Newton, b. Dec. 27, 1872; Ethel Blanche, b. Dec. 23, 1877.
- 246. JAMES BIRNEY, b. May 25, 1840, in Rowley; m. July 24, 1865, Caroline Augusta, daughter of Nathaniel and Caroline Plumer. Private in 50th Mass. Vols. in Civil War. Lives in Boston. Children: Charles Cushing Paine, b. Jan. 21, 1867; d. Sept. 15, 1867; George Thurlow, b. Mar. 25, 1869; d. Aug. 25, 1869; John Carpenter, b. Nov. 23, 1874.
- 247. EBENEZER JACKMAN, b. Nov. 4, 1843, in Georgetown; d. young.
- 248. EBEN JACKMAN, b. Oct. 12, 1845, in Georgetown; m. June 27, 1888, Tena S. Beckett of Haverhill. Lives in Haverhill.
- 249. ELIZA MOORE, b. Sept. 27, 1848, in Newbury; m. Nov. 29, 1884, Samuel P. Batchelder of Georgetown. Children: John Quincy, b. Sept. 6, 1885; Fred Wildes, b. Apr. 8, 1888; Florence, b. Sept. 4, 1890.
- 250. IRA GREENE, b. Oct. 24, 1851; m. Jan. 10, 1878, Louise, daughter of A. J. Huntress of Groveland. Lives in Haverhill. Children: Ada May, b. Jan. 10, 1882, d. Oct. 2, 1882; Howard Greene, b. Feb. 2, 1884; Bertha Garland, b. June 22, 1886.

**199 George Wildes** born Nov., 1811, married June 19, 1832, Abigail P. Chase. They were both then living in





Rowley. He died in Georgetown, Aug. 15, 1855, aged 43 years, 10 months.

Children, born in Rowley :

- 251. SARAH PICKARD, b. July 10, 1832; d. Sept. 5, 1833.
- 252. GEORGE THURLOW, b. June 25, 1833; m. June 2, 1856, Mary T., daughter of Benjamin and Abigail McLaughlin of Georgetown. He d. April 20, 1863, at New Orleans, La. Private in 20th Mass. Vols. in Civil War.
- 253. JOHN LOWELL b. Aug. 26, 1835; Private in 19th Mass. Vols. in the Civil War, and d. in Virginia.
- 253a. SARAH PICKARD, b. 1836-7; m. Charles E. Rogers of Byfield.

**200 Charles Wildes** born Nov. 1814, married Dec. 12, 1842, Maria (Mary. m. rd.) E., daughter of John and Maria Glines of Newbury. He died in Georgetown, Mar. 19, 1875, aet. 63 y. 5 m. She died in Georgetown, Feb. 16, 1878, aet. 56 y. 6 m.

Children :

- 253b. SARAH MARIA, b. Nov. 15, 1843 in Rowley; m. Oct. 4, 1865, George Woodbury. Lives in Georgetown. Children: Anson E., b. Apr. 19, 1868; Arthur W., b. Mar. 8, 1870; Sarah E., b. Feb. 1, 1882; Ella M., b. May 5, 1886.
- 254. JOHN MILTON, b. Oct. 27, 1844, in Georgetown.
- 255. CHARLES E., b. Dec. 1, 1855, in Georgetown. d. March 4, 1860, in Georgetown.

**209 Capt. Dudley Wildes** born in Topsfield, May, 1786; married, Feb. 13, 1812, Abigail, daughter of Samuel and Matta (Foster) Bradstreet. She died in Lynn, Dec. 2, 1869, aged 83 years, 11 months. He died Jan. 11, 1820, aged 33 years, 7 months.

Children, born in Topsfield :

- 256. ASAH EL HUNTINGTON, b. Apr. 22, 1813.
- 257. ABIGAIL BRADSTREET, b. May 17, 1815; m. Aug. 9, 1835, at Newbury, Levi Pearson of Methuen.
- 258. Twin sons, b. and d. Sept. 8, 1817.
- 259. ELIZABETH HARRIS, b. June 12, 1819; m. Oct. 6, 1840, Joseph W. Rust.

**210 Asa Waldo Wildes** born in Topsfield, May, 1786, married, June 7, 1818, at Newburyport, Eliza Ann, daughter of Capt. Abel and Phoebe (Tilton) Lunt of Newburyport. He was graduated at Dartmouth College in 1809, and



for a time taught school in Newburyport and Washington. He was admitted to the bar in 1820 and began the practice of law in Newburyport, which he continued until 1826 when a Commission, now known as the County Commissioners, was created and Mr. Wildes was appointed its chairman. He continued a member of the Commission, by appointment and election, until 1856, with the exception of one term, 1842 to 1845. Mr. Wildes was peculiarly fitted for the office he so long occupied, and his long incumbency was as creditable to the people of Essex County, as to himself. He served on the Board of Selectmen of Newburyport from 1825 to 1827.

He died Dec. 4, 1857, aged 71 years, 7 mos., at Newburyport.

Children, born in Newburyport:

260. GEORGE DUDLEY, b. June 19, 1819.
261. MARY HOWARD, b. Mar. 5, 1820; m. Nov. 18, 1841, Francis Chase of Hampton Falls, N. H. s. p.
262. ASA WALDO, b. Aug. 2, 1822; m. first, Jane Merrill Patten; m. 2d, Fanny Gray of Skowhegan, Maine. Colonel of 16th Maine Vols. and R. R. Commissioner in Maine for many years. Children: George L.; William H.; Annie W.; May Howard.
263. CAROLINE, b. Aug. 27, 1824; d. March 13, 1826.
264. JOSEPH HENRY (Col.), b. May 31, 1828, m. June 17, 1857, Alice, daughter of Hon. Otis L. Bridge, of Newburyport. Children: Francis L.; Alice B. Removed to California.
265. CAROLINE HUNTINGTON, b. Jan. 29, 1828; m. in Salem, 1858, Henry Perkins Stanwood, of Hopkinton, N. H. s. p.
266. ANNIE TILTON, b. March 7, 1835; m. Oct. 7, 1858, George T. Brown of Haverhill. Children: Emily A.; Caroline Wildes; Frank Q.; Annie Wildes; George Kimball; Henry Stanwood.
267. FRANCIS A., unm.; Captain in the Civil War. Lived in California and Portland, Me.

**215** Thomas Wildes born in Topsfield, Mar. 2, 1802; married at Ipswich, Aug. 19, 1824, Eunice, daughter of Corp. John Foster. She died Aug. 1, 1894, aged 91 years, at Weathersfield, Conn. He died Jan. 26, 1871, at Ipswich.

Children, born in Ipswich:

268. SOLOMON, b. Feb. 16, 1825.





269. ELIZABETH A., b. Sept. 23, 1827; m. Aug. 6, 1848, Leonard, Bailey of Ipswich. Removed to Weathersfield, Conn.  
270. LUCY, b. Nov. 8, 1829; d. April 23, 1904.  
271. SARAH, b. July 3, 1834; d. Dec. 27, 1834.  
272. MARY FRANCES, b. April 12, 1844; m. Jan. 23, 1863, John G. Foss, of Ipswich.

**216 Israel Wildes** born in Topsfield, Nov. 23, 1805; married, in Ipswich, April 22, 1840, Lydia Ann, daughter of Luke and Sally Averill. She died Sept. 25, 1847, in Linebrook, and he died Dec. 4, 1880 in Topsfield. Farmer.

Children, born in Ipswich :

273. OTIS ALMOND, b. Sept. 26, 1843; d. Sept. 26, 1847, in Linebrook, Ipswich.  
274. EUGENE LAMONT, b. Oct. 29, 1845.

**217 Moses Wildes** born in Topsfield, Nov. 4, 1810; married, first, in Ipswich, June 1, 1840, Sarah Ann, daughter of Capt. John Adams. She died July 15, 1853, at Ipswich, aged 36 years, and he married, second, Oct. 8, 1856, Sarah J., daughter of Enoch and Abia Lombard of Otisfield, Me. He died Mar. 5, 1895. Farmer and shoemaker. Lived in Topsfield.

Children by first wife, born in Topsfield :

275. SARAH FRANCES, b. Jan. 30, 1843; m. Dec. 13, 1866, Charles L. Wildes of Topsfield.  
276. HAYWARD LOREN, b. Oct. 24, 1845; d. Sept. 1, 1865.  
277. LYDIA ADAMS, b. Dec. 24, 1848, in Ipswich; m. Jan. 23, 1872, Alden P. Peabody of Topsfield.  
278. SUSAN ELLA, b. June 14, 1853, in Ipswich. When 9 months old, her mother having died, she was given to John Chapman of Ipswich and her name was changed to Edna Chapman. She m. Fred Wilcomb of Ipswich. No children.

Children by second wife, born in Topsfield :

279. ALMOND OTIS, b. Oct. 22, 1857; d. Dec. 13, 1857.  
280. SERVETUS LOMBARD, b. Dec. 7, 1858; shoemaker; d. unm. Feb. 23, 1889.  
281. LUCY ELLA, b. Mar. 21, 1861; d. unm. April 18, 1878 in Topsfield.  
282. HENRY WALTER, b. Jan. 22, 1863; watchmaker; d. unm. May 7, 1892 in Topsfield.  
283. EFFIE MAY, b. Feb. 11, 1866; m. Feb. 19, 1887, Walter Eldron Milbury of Middleton.



**225 Humphrey Wildes** born in Topsfield, May 11, 1814, married, Mar. 8, 1835, Olive Brown Perkins, daughter of Amos, jr. and Betsey. She died Mar. 25, 1862, aged 43 years. and he died Dec. 9, 1883. Bootmaker.

Children, born in Topsfield :

- 284. LUCY ANN, b. June 11, 1837; m. Apr. 20, 1855, Benjamin C. Dodd of Topsfield.
- 285. ABBY ELIZABETH, b. July 31, 1839; d. Apr. 20, 1841.
- 286. LEWIS HUMPHREY, b. July 10, 1842.
- 287. WILLIAM HERBERT, b. Oct. 13, 1843.
- 288. CHARLES LORING, b. Sept. 14, 1845; m. Dec. 13, 1866, Sarah Frances Wildes, dau. of Moses and Sarah Ann. Shoemaker. He d. May 26, 1873, in Topsfield. Child: Hayward Harland, b. Oct. 6, 1870.
- 289. ALVIN T., b. Oct., 1847; d. Feb. 14, 1853.
- 290. AUSTIN PERKINS, b. Nov. 13, 1849; d. Nov. 6, 1853.
- 291. JOHN T., b. Nov. 8, 1851; d. Feb. 15, 1853.
- 292. GEORGE ALVIN, b. Oct. 10, 1854.

**232 Moses Bradstreet Wildes** born in Topsfield, July 8, 1819, married, at Boston, Emeline Augusta, daughter of Jonathan Heath. In the early part of his life he was engaged with his father in the hotel business in Elm street, Boston, and afterwards embarked in the dry goods trade and subsequently became interested in the shipping trade with California and the East Indies. After the death of his father the management of the family estate occupied his time. He died in Boston on May 6, 1890. She died Oct. 25, 1868, aged 44 years, 6 months.

Children, born in Boston :

- 293. FRANK WALDO, b. Oct. 17, 1843.
- 294. FREDERICK BRADSTREET, b. Aug. 29, 1847; d. unm. July 13, 1905.
- 295. EMMA GERTRUDE, b. Sept. 26, 1848; unm.
- 296. MARION RICHMOND, b. Dec. 2, 1854; m. May 6, 1893, George H. Adams of Boston; d. Feb. 23, 1896.
- 297. ANNA HEATH, b. July 16, 1857; m. Edward Cramer of Milwaukee.
- 298. KATHERINE RICHMOND, b. Sept. 28, 1864; unm.

**238 Greene Wildes** born 1825-6; married (int. Sept. 5, 1846, in Georgetown.) Mary B. daughter of John and Mehitable Bailey) Davis. She died in Georgetown, Dec.





8, 1904, aged 77 years, 6 months. He died about 1860 in Sacramento, California.

Children, born in Georgetown :

299. ABBY J., b. May 15, 1846; d. Nov. 25, 1862 at Georgetown.

300. ROWENA, b. Mar. 15, 1847.

300a. LYMAN G., b. Aug. 4, 1849; d. Sept. 22, 1888; m. Hattie J. Perkins, who d. June 26, 1876. Child: George Arthur, b. June 14, 1873; m. May 12, 1900, Addie T. Grundy of Georgetown.

**240 Samuel P. Wildes** born in 1831, married Sept. 1, 1853, Sarah R., daughter of William and Sarah (Thomas) Risk of Rowley. He was then living in Georgetown. She died in Rowley, Sept. 12, 1864, aged 36 years. He died in Rowley, Dec. 14, 1855, aged 24 years.

Child, born in Rowley :

301. EDNAH JANE, b. June 16, 1855; d. Nov. 16, 1856 at Rowley.

**242 Luther Shaw Wildes** born in Ipswich, married (int. Georgetown, June 7, 1855.) Caroline Barber, daughter of Eben and Lois Floyd of Georgetown. He died Feb. 24, 1876 at Newburyport. She married, second, Sept. 10, 1881, at Newburyport, Henry Hewitt.

Children, born in Georgetown :

302. WALTER LEE, b. Apr. 4, 1858; m. Dec. 25, 1880, Laura E. Hitchcock of Georgetown. Children: Luther, b. Dec. 1, 1882 in Newburyport; Ruth Collum, b. Jan. 28, 1890 in Georgetown; Ralph and Raymond (twins), b. Jan. 26, 1891, in Georgetown.

303. A daughter, b. Sept. 11, 1860.

304. CARRIE F. (twin), b. July 26, 1862.

305. CLARA E. (twin), b. July 26, 1862.

306. LEONA J., m. Sept. 10, 1880, Edward E. Collum, at Newburyport.

307. HENRY HUDSON, b. Oct. 7, 1874, at Newburyport.

**244 Jeremiah Jewett Wildes** born in Rowley, May 21, 1834, married Oct. 19, 1865, Sarah E., daughter of John and Hannah (Wadleigh) Tarleton of West Newbury. Lives in Georgetown.

Children, born in Georgetown :

308. ANNA TARLETON, b. Oct. 2, 1869; m. Mar. 7, 1896, Leopold I. DeQuoy of Boston. Child: Stanley Wildes, b. Feb. 14, 1898.



309. HATTIE GREENE, b. May 22, 1871. School teacher.  
 310. ALICE AUGUSTA, b. Mar. 28, 1873; m. Apr. 9, 1891, Charles A. Stetson of Boxford. Children: Mary Arnold, b. Jan. 19, 1892; Elizabeth Jewett, b. April 29, 1893; Harriet Endicott, b. Dec. 9, 1894; Eleanor, b. Sept. 7, 1896; Satira Tarleton, b. Mar. 27, 1898; William Chester, b. July 19, 1900; Charles Hazen, b. Aug. 14, 1902; Clifford Wildes, b. Sept. 11, 1903.  
 311. ELLWOOD THURSTON, b. May 7, 1877; sole-leather cutter.

**254 John Milton Wildes** born in Georgetown, Oct. 27, 1844, married at Newburyport, Oct. 10, 1865, Catherine (Kate. m. rd.) Elizabeth, daughter of Samuel and Sarah Furbush of Georgetown. Private in 2d Mass. Heavy Art. in the Civil War. Lives in Haverhill.

Children, born in Georgetown:

312. CHARLES MILTON, b. June 23, 1866; d. Dec. 10, 1867.  
 313. FRANK HENRY, b. July 14, 1868, m. Sept. 7, 1898, Susie E. Brown.  
 314. LIZZIE FLORA, b. Sept. 3, 1869; m. May 11, 1893, Charles R. Grover.  
 315. SADIE MILTON, b. Dec. 21, 1872; d. May 13, 1878.  
 316. CHARLES MILTON, b. Jan. 25, 1874, m. Jan. 23, 1900, Maud Blake.  
 317. WINNIFRED, b. Nov. 30, 1878; m. Dec. 28, 1904, Mildred M. Hodgdon.

**256 Asahel Huntington Wildes** born in Topsfield, April 22, 1813, married at Ipswich, Dec. 7, 1843, Wilhelmina Dodge. She died Feb. 27, 1892, aged 72 years. He died Mar. 4, 1879 in Ipswich.

Children, born in Ipswich:

318. A daughter, still born, June 21, 1845.  
 319. EDWARD BRADSTREET, b. Aug. 7, 1846.  
 320. GEORGE D., b. June 11, 1849; m. Blanche H. Dodge. Children: Blanche, b. Apr. 6, 1880; Margery, b. Aug. 25, 1883.  
 321. FRANCES, b. Nov. 11, 1852; d. Nov. 28, 1852.

**260 George Dudley Wildes** born in Newburyport, June 19, 1819, married Nov. 5, 1846, Harriette, daughter of Benjamin Howard of Boston. He fitted for Harvard and was graduated at the Virginia Theological Seminary at Alexandria and ordained deacon in 1846 at New Bedford, Mass., at the same time being invited to the professorship of mathematics at Shelby College, Ky. After holding several charges, he became assistant at St. Paul's,





Boston. He afterwards was at Brookline. In 1859 he became the first rector of Grace church, Salem, where he remained until 1867. While at Salem he became a member of the State Board of Education. At the outset of the Civil War, he was instrumental in raising the 19th and 23d Massachusetts regiments, forming also the field hospital corps and being commissioned its chaplain. In 1867 he became rector of Christ church, Riverdale, New York. Author of numerous sermons and addresses, and editor and translator of several volumes. He died at Riverdale, N. Y., June 3, 1898. She died at Riverdale, Dec. 11, 1901.

Children :

- 322. GRACE HOWARD, b. Mar. 6, 1848; m. June 7, 1877, Thomas Butler Meeker. 3 children.
- 323. ALICE HOWARD, b. Mar. 3, 1852; unm.
- 324. CLARENCE HOWARD, b. Jan. 15, 1856; m. Oct. 13, 1888, Florence, daughter of J. Hobart Herrick of New York City.

**268 Solomon Wildes** born in Ipswich, Feb. 16, 1825, married, first, Ellen Althea ———, who died at Chelsea, June 12, 1849, aged 26 years, 9 mos. He married, second, ———, and, third, Anna W. Harding of Bath, Me. He died in Boston, Feb. 22, 1895.

Children :

- 325. LUCY ELLEN, b. Oct. 17, 1848, at Ipswich; d. Sept. 22, 1849, at Chelsea.
- 326. FRED A.
- 327. HENRY.
- 328. FRANK.
- 329. LUCY ELLEN.
- 330. ALICE.
- 331. FRANK H., b. Oct., 1867, at Newtonville; d. Dec. 6, 1868, at Boston.

**274 Eugene Lamont Wildes** born in Ipswich, Oct. 29, 1845, married Dec. 8, 1868, Alatheia Orietta, daughter of Josiah B. and Angelina Lamson. Farmer; lives in Topsfield.

Children :

- 332. ELTON EUGENE, b. Nov. 8, 1869, in Ipswich; m. Oct. 23, 1901, Carrie Baker Kimball of Ipswich. Child: Priscilla, b. in Malden, Aug. 9, 1905.



333. FLORENCE LAMSON, b. Dec. 15, 1872, in Topsfield; m. Jan. 20, 1898, Samuel McL. Hill of Wenham. Children born in Wenham: Marjorie Alatheia, b. Oct. 4, 1898; Louise Huntington, b. Feb. 15, 1904.
334. MILDRED FERN, b. Dec. 8, 1890, in Topsfield.

**286 Lewis Humphrey Wildes** born in Topsfield, July 10, 1842; married, May 11, 1864, Anna Jane, daughter of Amos S. and Eliza A. (Perkins) Chapman. Shoemaker. Lives in Topsfield.

Children, born in Topsfield:

335. GEORGE WALTER, b. Sept. 27, 1865; m. Mary Mayon of Boston. Children: Walter Proctor, George W. (d. July 15, 1896); George Raymond; Nellie Frances (died); Lewis Timothy (d. Sept. 1, 1893); Florence May; Leo.
336. ELMER PERKINS, b. Jan. 22, 1867; m. Thirza Davis; Children: Ruth Haskell; Muriel May.
337. LENNIE MAY, b. Aug. 3, 1869; m. April 7, 1889, Everett C. Chapman of Wenham.
338. LYMAN WILBUR, b. May 4, 1874; m. Dec. 24, 1895, Mary R., daughter of Frank and Sophie E. (Ernst) Crouse of Lower Braintree, N. S. Children: Wilbur Leighton, b. July 13, 1896; Ralph Winthrop, b. Nov. 25, 1899.

**287 William Herbert Wildes** born Oct. 13, 1843, married Nov. 5, 1865, Eunice Helen, daughter of Jason and Emily A. Richardson of Middleton. Shoemaker. Lives in Topsfield.

Children:

339. HAZEN ROGERS, b. May 29, 1866; m. Oct. 27, 1897, Mary E., daughter of James and Hannah (Carroll) Dieckhoff. Carpenter. Lives in Topsfield. Child: James William, b. April 20, 1898.
340. MABEL OLIVE, b. June 23, 1879; m. Sept. 24, 1895, James Munroe Bray of Topsfield; d. Jan. 3, 1896.

**292 George Alvin Wildes** born in Topsfield, Oct. 10, 1854, married June 1, 1882, Lottie Perley, daughter of Isaac and Charlotte (Burleigh) Frye, of Andover. Shoemaker. Lives in Beverly.

Children:

341. GEORGE ERNEST, b. July 8, 1883, in Topsfield.
342. FANNY ELLEN, b. Jan. 16, 1885, in Topsfield; m. June 22, 1905, William H. Workman of Beverly.





- 343. SUSIE FRYE, b. Aug. 9, 1887, in Topsfield.
- 344. RAYMOND PERKINS, b. Aug. 6, 1889, in Topsfield.
- 345. FREDERICK, b. June 6, 1891, in Beverly.
- 346. PERCIVAL, b. Sept. 25, 1895, in Beverly.

**293 Frank Waldo Wildes** born in Boston, Oct. 17, 1843, married, first, April 22, 1869, Helen Delia, daughter of Maurice and Delia A. (Sistare) Hilger of New York City. She died Nov. 10, 1885, and he married, second, Dec. 11, 1886, Mrs. Frances Elizabeth (Hilger) Ball, sister of his first wife. Harvard, 1864. Resides in Boston.

Children, born in Boston: Maurice Hilger, Harvard, 1891; Frederick, Harvard, 1894; Robert Waldo; Frances Elizabeth; Theodore Bradstreet.

**319 Edward Bradstreet Wildes** born in Ipswich, Aug. 7, 1846; married May 21, 1870, Harriet M., daughter of Willard B. and Harriet (Manning) Kinsman of Ipswich. He died Jan. 31, 1899, at Ipswich.

Children:

- 347. ANNA (Annie K.), b. April 21, 1873; d. Nov. 25, 1878.
- 348. HENRY HAMMATT (twin), b. Aug. 29, 1876; d. Nov. 9, 1896.
- 349. WILHELMINA (twin), b. Aug. 29, 1876.
- 350. MADELINE, b. Jan. 18, 1882.

---

## LETTER FROM DR. NEHEMIAH CLEAVELAND TO COL. TIMOTHY PICKERING.

---

TOPSFIELD, 16<sup>th</sup> Jan., 1815.

Dear Sir:—Your very interesting favour of the 2<sup>d</sup> of Nov<sup>r</sup> and the receipt for Mr. Cummings was duly received and I have also to acknowledge the receipt of the packets you sent me containing the dispatches from our Ministers at Ghent, for all which please to accept my best thanks. Your pertinent remarks on the various subjects in your letter were very instructive. I perfectly coincide in your view of the conscription plans which have been before Congress, all of which seem now to be abandoned; it is very certain in my mind, that conscription in its mildest form could not be carried into full operation in New England and



I have no doubt your Troups, Eppes, and Gileses are of the same opinion by this time. As to the national treasury, it seems very clear, that the present administration cannot replenish it, nothing can be more evident than that notes, without an ability, in those who promise to pay must depreciate, nor is it easy to see in what manner the bank, sh'd it be establised as it has recently passed the House of Rep<sup>rs</sup> (and which is incomparably preferable to any former project), can aid the Government very considerably at present. Congress have granted a heavy load of taxes, but I think it is not hazarding much to predict that these taxes will not be paid very promptly, especially the six millions direct tax, even sh'd the State Legislatures fail to interpose a general opinion with the farmers in that it will not do to pay any more money to the Gen<sup>l</sup> Govern<sup>t</sup> to be squander'd. How much longer are we to suffer such a state of things as now exists? Is there any prospect of doing any better? What is said at Washington either by the friends or the enemies of New England, respecting the doings of the Hartford Convention? It would be very interesting to me to have some of your thoughts upon the subject. That is, what N. England can do, what they ought to do and what they must do to save themselves from irremediable ruin.

I have been detained from going to Salem since I received your letter by indisposition. I hope to go soon when I will pay your Son the money you paid for Mr. Cummings.

I am, with high esteem, your very humble servant

N. CLEVELAND.

*Timothy Pickering MSS., Vol. 30, p. 360, Mass. Hist. Society.*

---

## ESSEX REGISTRY OF DEEDS AT TOPSFIELD.

---

To Colo. Pickering (Registor of deeds for the County of Essex)—Sir, The Committee for said County, have taken in to Consideration the propriety of holding your office in the Town of Salem agreeable to a Resolve of the provincial Congress, and have thought best that said office





should be removed into the Town of Topsfield untill further Order. It is likely you may be Accommodated at the House of Mr Elijah Porters, or at any other House in s<sup>d</sup> Topsfield that you shall think more proper. And we would informe you that the return of the Committee of Correspondence for Salem doth not mention how much money is still due from the town of Salem, to the Province. Therefore we desire s<sup>d</sup> Committee to informe some one of the County Committee respecting the Same, as soon as may be. Sign<sup>d</sup> in the name & by Order of said Committee.

Ipswich, May 24<sup>th</sup>, 1775, Sam. Holten jun<sup>r</sup>  
*Timothy Pickering MSS., Vol. 39, p. 114, Mass. Hist. Society.*

---

LETTER OF REV. JEREMIAH HOBART TO  
 REV. INCREASE MATHER.

---

To the Reverend Mr Encreas Mather Minister in Boston. These p<sup>r</sup>sent, p<sup>r</sup> amicu Q. D. C.

Reuerend S<sup>r</sup>—After due salutations to yo<sup>r</sup>selfe & wife, wisheing you acumulation of divine blessings, & all other prosperousness in health & weal of body, etc.

These are to p<sup>r</sup>sent my owne & wife's hearty respects to yourself & all your's, withall intimating, that not any want of loue & goodwill hath stopped my pen since I saw your face, from aduising you in this kind; but S<sup>r</sup> I consid<sup>r</sup> my owne tenuity & inconsiderableness amongst men in rising times, haue been the rather willing to submitt to a poor low degree, & bear divine indignation therein.

S<sup>r</sup> I am glad to hear of your prosperity, & that God carryes you on in His great work, & that you have vacancy to read, study, write, not impeded by the vrgent & emergent necessary cares of providing for your family.

It is not so with us. We labo<sup>r</sup> & study what we may, but our encouragement is small. God is trying & exercising us with laxness in all orders civile. We had good agreem<sup>t</sup>s, & some good lawes, but our Don: appearing *omnia in possum iere*; & our justices of the peace & und<sup>r</sup> officers *sunt ejusdem farinae*.



Worthy S<sup>r</sup> I write not to complayne, but as I haue a Sympathy as to your mutations, so hope you are not without bowells as to ours. The truth is, its a day of Jacob's fears & troubles. The passio[n]s of the Gospell are great, the Churches billows high, our fears are come upon us, & it is the howre of tentation. God Almighty grant we may keep, & that N. E. may keep the word of hir patience, that will proue our safest conduct.

Dear S<sup>r</sup> I hope you will accept my short and poor lines, haucing by reason of the shortness of the opportunity no leisure to study adornement. I haue a child (my son & all the sons I haue), in Boston; I should rejoyce you would show him some respect, & giue him counsell. Hee is now a freeman. I pray God he may be the Lord's freeman. I hear well of him, & hope you may take an occasion in loue to aduise him.

Sir, here is a young man, one Elkana Pembroke, the bearer hereof, a persecuted Stranger who I verily hope is godly, & respected much by christians both here and at Huntington. You may do well to show respect to him. He is by trad a weauer, & is willing to lab<sup>r</sup> & work. I hope you may kindly aduise him.

Thus, Reverend S<sup>r</sup> craueing excuse for my impertinencys in anything mentioned, & begging earnestly your remembrances at the throne of grace, for me & mine, for diuine blessings in Christ Jesus. I comend you to God & the word of His grace, praying the Lord to blesse & water all your holy Labours, to the glory of His name, & the good of His church, & your good account. I take leaue, euer remaineing,

Sir. Your's in the Chief Shepheard,

Jer: Hobart.\*

Hempst<sup>d</sup>, Long-Island, Aug. 23, 1686.

I pray S<sup>r</sup>, let my most kind loue be giuen to your good Son, my Couzin Cotton Mather, *Deus benedicat ei*.

*From The Mather Papers. Mass. Hist. Colls., 4th series, Vol. VIII, p. 661.*

\*Rev. Jeremiah Hobart (H. C. 1659), son of Rev. Peter Hobart, of Hingham, was first ordained at Topsfield, Oct. 2, 1672; dismissed in 1680, he went to Hempstead, L. I., was settled there in 1682; and again dismissed, went to Haddam, and was installed Nov. 14, 1700. Savage's Genearl. Dict.





## LOCALITIES AND PLACE NAMES IN TOPSFIELD.

BY J. PORTER GOULD.

**ABRAM'S ISLAND.** On either side of the railroad track and about equidistant between Summer street and the Turnpike, until about 1890, stood a fine grove of hardwood trees. The land at an earlier date belonged to Abram Balch. The grove, nearly circular in form, stood on ground bounded on two sides by brooks and the familiar name no doubt originated from the location, the shape of the grove, and the name of the former owner. Similar clumps of trees are often-times called islands. About forty years ago a train of cars was stalled here for three days, in snow banks that reached to the roofs of the cars.

**ACADEMY HILL.** The small elevation between Main street and High Street on which the Topsfield Academy building, now Centre School House, was erected in 1828.

**AGRICULTURAL FARM.** The farm at the junction of Main street and Boston street. In 1857 it was bequeathed by Dr. John H. Treadwell of Salem to the Essex Agricultural Society to be used as a farm at which experiments in agriculture should be conducted.

**ALARM POST HILL.** The first elevation on the left after leaving Perkins street in passing to the Bickford sawmill site. This spot was used as a rendezvous in 1774 by Capt. Thomas Perkins' company of minutemen.



**ANNIE'S POND.** Near the corner of Central and Summer streets were two small ponds. The name originated in their ownership by Annie Perkins, an elderly maiden lady who lived in the house now owned by Mrs. Ephraim Peabody.

**ANN'S HILL.** The hill above Israel's hill, on Hill street, so named because near it lived "Ann" Wallis, a local "character" who died in 1793.

**ASBURY STREET,** begins at Ipswich street and ends at the Hamilton line. It leads to the Asbury Grove Camp Ground, hence its name.

**AVERY'S ISLAND.** An old-time corruption of the name Averill, a family that owned most of the land for over two hundred years. It contains about 78 acres and is located in the northeasterly part of the town a little below the Hassocky meadows. The Ipswich river and low meadows entirely surround it.

**BAKER'S HILL.** The small descent on Ipswich street about 600 feet east of Pine street, taking its name from the farm at the left which was in the possession of the Baker family before 1715.

**BAKER'S POND.** An early name for Hood's Pond. Applied before 1662.

**BARE HILL.** Westerly from Haverhill street having an elevation of 140 feet. The Pine Grove Cemetery is laid out on its southern slope. The name "Bare hill" was applied as early as 1661.

**BILLINGSGATE HILL.** This name was applied to what is now known as Price's hill, as early as 1674.

**BIRCH ISLAND.** Rising land south of Perkins street, bordering on the river, at the southeasterly end of the Bunker meadows, and formerly owned by Dudley Q. Perkins. Also known as Barn island.

**BIRD SWAMP.** The swamp beside Ipswich street and east of North street, a short distance from the house of Fred Smerage. A favorite resort for many kinds of birds.





**BIXBY'S CORNER.** The corner where Rowley street leaves Haverhill street and deriving its name from the Bixby family which lived a quarter of a mile away on Rowley street, on the farm long in the possession of the Dorman family and now (1905) owned by Connolly Brothers.

**BLIND HOLE.** A name applied before Oct. 14, 1651 to the territory extending from what is now the Peterson farm in the southern part of the Town, to Putnamville in Danvers. Cleaveland in his Bicentennial Address states that this originated in the dense growth of trees which shrouded the early way leading through this territory.

**BONNEY'S FEATHERBED.** The locality on the easterly side of Perkins street lying east of Mile Brook bridge. The name appears in a deed dated June 7, 1711 and is said to have originated in the incident of an ox named "Bonney" or "Boney," which was accustomed to select a rocky place in this locality, as a desirable spot on which to lie down. Another story relates that a traveller named Bonny once slept here with a stone for a pillow, having only a feather and imagination with which to soften its hardness.

**BOSTON STREET,** the Boston and Newburyport Turnpike, extends from the Danvers line to the Ipswich line.

**BOXFORD STREET,** begins at Washington street and ends at the Boxford line.

**BUNKER MEADOWS.** The meadows lying on both sides of the Ipswich river, easterly from the Dudley Q. Perkins farm, now owned by Thomas E. Proctor. The name originated in an early ownership by George Bunker who settled in Topsfield and was drowned in 1658.

**BURNHAM'S HILL.** Located between Hood's pond and North street. The Topsfield-Ipswich boundary line passes over this hill.

**BUSHY HILL.** The hill lying west from the junction of Perkins street and Ridge street. The name appears in deeds as early as June, 1663.



**CAPEN HOUSE.** The time-weathered dwelling house with overhanging second story which stands near the easterly corner of the Common, was erected about 1686 for the Rev. Joseph Capen and from him takes its name.

**CAT ISLAND.** A grove of trees on rising ground east of Salem street between the Dwinell and Putnam farms. A wild cat is said to have been killed at this spot, hence the origin of the name.

**CENTRAL STREET,** formerly Mutton lane, and later Mechanic's court, begins at Main street and ends at the junction of High street and Perkins street. The name probably originated from the location of the street about half way between Main street and High street, both principal thoroughfares.

**THE CITY.** The cluster of houses on Ipswich street near where it crosses Howlett's brook. Before the Revolution nearly all the houses in this locality were owned and occupied by members of the Hobbs family and the hamlet grew to be known as "Hobbs' City." In time, all of the Hobbs name died or removed and the word "City" alone has been retained.

See Topsfield Historical Collections, Vol. III, p. 165.

**CLAY PITS.** In early times clay pits were dug in various parts of the town. They are mentioned in 1709 as existing near the Wenham Causeway.

**COLD SPRING.** Located in low ground about 800 feet northeasterly from Mile Brook bridge and about 300 feet from the bed of Mile brook. In 1850 the Spring was about 25 feet in diameter. The water is very cold. Mentioned in a deed dated June 7, 1711, and also at later dates.

**COLERAIN.** The level area in the northerly part of the town lying west of the B. & M. R. R. tracks and south of the land of the late Arthur W. Phillips. No sufficient evidence has as yet been discovered showing the origin of this name which appears as early as 1797 in a deed of Simon Gould covering land in this locality.





**THE COLLEGES.** The locality lying easterly of the Bonney's Feather-bed road, now known as Perkins street, and for over two centuries owned by the Averill family, but now in the possession of Thomas E. Proctor. The name is said to have originated from the circumstance that the several members of the Averill family, who had houses in this locality, were among the more intelligent people of the town,—prominent in town affairs, cabinet makers and owners of a saw-mill, and above all, subscribers to one of the three newspapers received in Topsfield.

See Topsfield Historical Collections, Vol. II, p. 84; Vol. VIII, p. 49.

**THE COMMON.** An area containing about 7 acres, lying on either side of Main street, and upon which stands the Town Hall and the Congregational Church. The Methodist Church faces the Common at its easterly corner. This area has remained common or undivided land since the settlement of the town. In former times it was used as a training field, but latterly it has been devoted to public sports and recently efforts have been made to improve its appearance along park lines.

**COPPER MINE LOT.** The lot at the corner of Rowley Bridge street and Copper Mine road, taking its name from the supposed copper mine opened here as early as 1650 by Governor John Endecott. The pit may yet be seen.

See Topsfield Historical Collections, Vol. II, p. 73.

**COPPER MINE ROAD,** begins at Rowley Bridge street and ends at the Middleton line.

**COW PEN BROOK.** The small brook that flows under Perkins street near the road leading to the late residence of Dudley Q. Bradstreet, now owned by Thomas E. Proctor. The name was in use as early as 1694.

**CROSS STREET,** extends from Rowley Bridge street to Hill street.

**DONATION FARM.** The farm now owned by J. Morris Meredith. The name originated in the bequest of the property to the town in 1825, by Deacon George Bixby, the income to be used for the support of preaching the Calvinis-



tic doctrines and the farm to be known as "The donation farm for the support of the gospel."

**DRY BRIDGE.** There are two dry bridges in town. One, where Howlett street passes under the Newburyport and Boston turnpike; the other, where West street ("the ridge road") passes under the railroad track. The name is more generally applied to the first. The bridge was built in 1804 when the turnpike was constructed. A steep descent furnishes passage, from the turnpike to Howlett street so that a carriage may be driven *over* the bridge and then *under*.

**EAST END.** A name formerly applied to the locality east of the Turnpike and lying between the Colleges and what is now High street.

**EAST STREET,** begins at Ipswich street and ends at the Ipswich line.

**FALLS BRIDGE.** This name was applied in 1714 to the bridge over Mile brook near the entrance to what is now the I. B. Young house on North street. Of late years it has been called Symonds' bridge.

**FISH BROOK.** Flows into the Ipswich river and is a boundary line between Topsfield and Boxford. Called "Fishing brook," as early as 1652.

**FORT FIELD.** The field on the top of the hill behind the George F. Averell house on the westerly side of Hill street has long been locally known as "the fort field." In 1894 Mr. Averell found, some eighteen inches below the surface, in a corner of this field, a fine spring of water surrounded by a retaining wall of stone work. In the centre of the field he removed four large flat stones located in the form of a square which suggested a foundation for some former structure.

**FORT, OLD.** According to tradition repeated by Enos Estey in 1845 and also shown on a plan of the Agricultural Farm drawn by Samuel S. McKenzie in 1858, a fort for protection against the Indians, formerly stood in the Agricultural Farm field east of the pine grove beside the Turnpike and near the brook.





**FOX ISLAND.** A small elevation covered with trees, in the meadow beside the Ipswich river, lying nearly in a range between the end of the glacial ridge or esker near the Bradstreet-Proctor house, and the ford across the river near Vineyard hill, Hamilton. So named as early as 1725.

**FRANK'S LANE.** The narrow way leading from Main street to the Lower Cemetery and across the Turnpike to Central street. For nearly half its length it has a fine row of maple trees on either side from which its present name, Maple street, is derived. This way was laid out before Oct. 26, 1699.

**GALLUP'S BROOK.** The outlet for Lowe's pond, Boxford, and Hood's pond, Topsfield. As early as 1650 it was known as Pye brook, a name that is yet applied in Boxford. The name "Gallup's brook" has only been in use during the past seventy-five years and originated from the Gallup family who formerly lived near the bridge across the brook on Haverhill street. Near the Frank C. Frame house, the brook divides into two parts—Mile brook and Howlett's brook—both flowing into the Ipswich river.

**GARDEN STREET,** connects Hill street and Boston street. The name originated from the fact that the street was laid out through the garden of Benjamin W. Crowninshield.

**GRASS HILL.** The very steep hill on Wenham street having an elevation of 200 feet. The roadway as it ascended this hill formerly was overgrown with grass no doubt due to the fact that this road was but little travelled, although the way was laid out and in use before 1658, it being the direct road to Wenham passing over "the Causeway."

**GRAVELLY BROOK.** The brook which for a short distance forms the eastern boundary between Topsfield and Ipswich. In early days it was known as Winthrop's brook.

**GREAT HILL.** The hill east of the village, having an elevation of 240 feet, and so called before 1671.

**HARDSCRABBLE.** The locality about the junction of Ipswich street and the Newburyport and Boston turnpike. It



is now more generally known as "Springville." The name "Hardscrabble" is said to have originated with Capt. John Adams, who when calling at the small shoe shops formerly located near each house, would joke with the workmen and remark that they were "scrabbling hard to make a living." The phrase was habitual and soon became a byword applied to the neighborhood.

**THE HARTLANDS.** The meadowy ground on the south side of the river about half-way between the stone bridge, and Towne's bridge, takes its name from a former owner, the Rev. Daniel Breck, pastor of the Topsfield church, who removed to Hartland, Vermont, in 1788.

**HASSOCKY MEADOW.** A river meadow comprising about 75 acres lying east of "the Colleges" and now owned by Thomas E. Proctor. The name is derived from the hassocky bunches of grass with which the meadow is covered, and was applied before 1647. Until recently this meadow was mowed for its hay.

**HAVERHILL STREET,** begins at the junction of Main and Ipswich streets and ends at the Boxford line. It is the road to Haverhill.

**HIGH BANKS.** A name recently applied to the left bank of the Ipswich river just below the "Stone Bridge," long resorted to as a bathing place.

**HIGH STREET,** begins at the junction of Main and Washington streets and ends at the Wenham line.

**HILL STREET,** connects Salem street and Rowley Bridge street. A very hilly street.

**HOOD'S POND.** The pond located about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles north of the village. It has an area of 68 acres and takes its present name from the family of Hood, who have lived at its northern extremity for nearly two centuries. At earlier times it has been known as Pritchett's pond, and Baker's pond.

**HORSE ISLAND.** Low ground on the south side of the Ipswich river nearly opposite the house of the late Albert Webster.





**HOVEY'S PLAIN.** A somewhat sandy plain on Haverhill street beyond Gallup's brook. In the open field towards the west may have been seen the cellar of the Hovey house from which family the plain derives its name. In early times it was known as Pine plain.

**HOWLETT STREET,** "the old road," begins at "the Common" and ends at Perkins street. It takes its name from Samuel Howlett, the early blacksmith, who lived by this road.

**HOWLETT'S BROOK.** That portion of Gallup's brook (or Pye brook), which divides near the Frank C. Frame house and flows easterly to Donaldson's grist-mill and the Ipswich river. Named for the Howlett family which long owned the grist-mill.

**IPSWICH RIVER.** Rises in Burlington, Mass., and flows into Ipswich Bay, in its course dividing the town of Topsfield into two parts and also serving as a boundary line. In the earliest times it was known as "the river Agawam."

**IPSWICH STREET,** begins at the junction of Main and Haverhill streets and ends at the Ipswich line.

**ISRAEL'S HILL.** The first hill on Hill street beyond the Salem street corner. It was named for Israel Towne who lived in the vicinity. The ascents of the hill are respectively called the "upper Israel" and the "lower Israel."

**KLONDIKE.** A name applied at the time of the Klondike gold fever to the newly filled and graded land owned by Otto E. Lake, on Washington street opposite Grove street. At one time used as a public dump.

**LAKE VILLAGE.** The locality about the junction of Prospect street and River street. Henry Lake, weaver, built his house here about 1675 and his descendants have lived in the vicinity until the present day.

**LAMSON'S BRIDGE.** The bridge over the Ipswich river, crossed by Asbury street and taking its name from the Lamson family who lived nearby for over 250 years.



**LANG'S HILL.** The hill now known as Price's hill and at an early date as "Billingsgate," became known after 1850, as Lang's hill, deriving its name from Charles Lang who lived in a house that formerly stood about half-way up the hill beyond the Andrew Gould house.

**LONG LANE.** That portion of Washington street situated between Mill street and River street, formerly was a narrow, straight way, and before it was widened was locally known as Long lane.

**LOWER OR BOSTON STREET CEMETERY.** Situated on the Turnpike, now Boston street, having Maple street on the south. It was purchased by the Town for burial purposes in 1828.

See Topsfield Historical Collections, Vol. VII, p. 107.

**MAIN STREET,** begins at the junction of Ipswich and Haverhill streets and ends at Boston street. That portion between the railroad track and Boston street is sometimes called South Main street.

**MAPLE STREET,** connects Main street and Central street. The rows of maple trees on either side suggested the name. Formerly it was known as Frank's lane.

**MECHANIC'S COURT.** A name formerly applied to Central street when it was only a narrow lane terminating at what is now Summer street.

**MEETING-HOUSE LANE.** The narrow way connecting Howlett street with Perkins street. The earliest meeting-house is said to have stood beside this way, which formerly was a part of "the old road."

**MILE BROOK.** That portion of Gallup's brook (or Pye brook), which divides near the Frank C. Frame house and flows south-easterly to the Peabody grist mill and the Ipswich river. The name is derived from the fact that the distance is about a mile from the division in the brook to its junction with the river and was in use before 1653.

**MILL STREET,** begins at Washington street and ends at the Boxford line. It formerly led to the Boxford ironworks





and afterwards to the saw-mill lately known as Frame's mill.

**MISERY.** The poor, sandy land south of Washington street and near Fish brook.

**MUDDY SPRING.** Located near the base of Great hill beside Howlett street and mentioned as a bound as early as 1690.

**MUTTON LANE.** A name applied to Central street when it was only a narrow lane terminating at what is now Summer street. The slaughter-house of Munday and later of Woodbury and Ward, located on this lane, suggested its name. It was also known as Mechanic's court.

**NAVY YARD.** A name applied to Topsfield or some portion of it, and in use in Salem and vicinity since before 1840. Its origin and application is obscure.

**NEW MEADOWS.** The first name applied by the settlers to this town and finding its origin in the broad meadows beside the river.

**NICHOLS' BROOK.** Flows into the Ipswich river in the south-western part of the town and forms a portion of the boundary line between Topsfield and Middleton. The name is derived from the Nichols family, which settled near this brook in 1651.

**NORTH STREET,** begins at Ipswich street, a short distance east of Baker's hill, and running in a northerly direction ends at the Ipswich line.

**OAK TREE.** The oldest tree in the town stands in a small pasture on the south side of Hill street belonging to the Agricultural Farm. It probably is about 300 years old.

See Topsfield Historical Collections, Vol. VII, p. 105.

**OLD ROAD.** The road leading from Perkins street, under the dry bridge, to the Common and now known as Howlett street, takes its name from the fact that Samuel Howlett came from Ipswich in 1668 and set up his trade of blacksmithing beside this street. His house was also located on this street. The road is one of the oldest in the town.



**OLIVERS.** The farm of 500 acres granted to Samuel Symonds by the town of Ipswich in 1637, having for its south-westerly bounds, Pye brook, and south-easterly bounds on Paine's hill. The name originated in Symonds' former estate in Toppesfield Parish, England, which also was known as "Olivers" and retains the name to the present day.

**PAINE'S HILL.** The hill on the northerly side of Ipswich street near Asbury street, taking its name from William Paine, the merchant of Ipswich and Boston, who was an original proprietor at the settlement of the town. The name appears in deeds as early as 1683.

**PARK STREET,** formerly Railroad avenue, connects Main street and Summer street.

**PARSONAGE LOT.** The hilly and swampy pasture, now overgrown by trees and bushes, located in the rear of the Albert A. Conant property on Main street. The first parsonage was built here in 1663, and the cellar hole may yet be seen about one hundred feet in the rear of the Conant stable. The land remained the property of the town and parish for nearly two hundred years.

**PERKINS' ISLAND.** Elevated land near the Ipswich river in the southeasterly part of the town. A bound stone marking the line between Topsfield and Wenham is on this island.

**PERKINS' ROW.** A name formerly applied to that portion of Perkins street between Howlett street and High street, for the reason that nearly every family on the street was of the Perkins name.

**PERKINS STREET,** begins at the junction of Central and High streets and ends at Ipswich street, at "the City." It is a very crooked road. Part of it formerly was known as "Perkins Row." That part extending from Meeting House lane to Ipswich street has long been known as the "Bonney's Featherbed road."

**PINE GROVE CEMETERY.** Located on Haverhill street, it takes its name from the fine grove of 140 pine trees on the higher part of the ground. The first interments in this





ground were probably made about 1663 when the meeting-house was located here. Three enlargements have been made to the original area.

**PINE HILL.** A hill lying south-west of the Peterson farm on the south side of the Ipswich river, mentioned in a deed of Averill to Averill in Sept., 1709.

**PINE ISLAND.** An island in the meadow east of the ridge which lies east of the Dudley Bradstreet house now owned by Thomas E. Proctor. The name was in use before 1718.

**PINE PLAIN.** The level ground lying on either side of Haverhill street, north of Gallup's brook. Of late years known as Hovey's plain. The name appears in deeds as early as 1657.

**PINE STREET,** connects Ipswich street and Haverhill street. A small grove of pine trees suggested the name.

**POKER BRIDGE.** The small bridge crossed by Maple street near the railroad track. Tradition relates that the Devil in the form of a hog, formerly haunted this bridge, hence the name "Porker" or "Poker" bridge. In 1699 it was called Foster's bridge, in the laying out of a road.

**POND STREET,** begins at Haverhill street and following the northern shore of Hood's pond, ends at the Ipswich line.

**THE POUND.** The pound in which are kept domestic animals that have strayed from their owner's keeping, is located (1905) in a portion of the "Town pasture," beyond Pine Grove Cemetery. Previous to about 1885, it was located for many years on Washington street, in the rear of the Congregational church, in a corner of the pasture, known as the "Parsonage lot," it having been removed to this site in 1844 from where the Town hall now stands, to accommodate the school house built at that time.

**POWDER HOUSE HILL.** On the knoll nearest the swamp at the Washington street end of the "Parsonage lot" formerly stood a small building in which was stored the town's stock



of gunpowder. The building was removed shortly before 1850.

**PRICE'S HILL.** The hill lies south of the village and has an elevation of 160 feet. Prospect street runs over it. The early settlers applied the name "Billingsgate" to this hill. For a number of years following 1850 it was known as Lang's hill. The present name is derived from the Richard Price estate located on the top of the hill.

**PRITCHETT'S POND.** An early name for Hood's pond.

**PROSPECT STREET,** connects Main street with River street, passing over "Billingsgate hill" and affording a fine view of the village.

**PYE BROOK.** The outlet for Lowe's pond, Boxford, and Hood's pond, Topsfield. The name was applied before 1645. During the past seventy-five years the lower portion of the brook has been known as "Gallup's brook."

**THE RAPIDS.** A shallow, rocky place in the Ipswich river, about half way between the Stone bridge and Towne's Bridge, and near the locality known as "The Hartlands."

**RIDGE STREET,** begins at Ipswich street, crosses the Turnpike, and ends at Perkins street. For a part of the distance it is built on top of a glacial ridge or terminal moraine.

**RIVER HILL.** The hill south of the Stone bridge. Also called "Turnpike hill."

**RIVER STREET,** begins at Salem street, near the river, which it follows for some distance, and crossing Washington street it ends at the Boxford line or Fish Brook bridge.

**ROWLEY BRIDGE.** The bridge over the Ipswich river nearest the Middleton and Boxford line. It was built conjointly by Topsfield and Rowley and may have locally acquired its name from this fact. The name appears in a deed dated Jan. 1, 1695.

**ROWLEY BRIDGE STREET,** begins at River street, passes over "Rowley bridge," and ends at the Danvers line where it becomes North street.





ROWLEY STREET, begins at Haverhill street and ends at the Ipswich line near the southern end of Hood's pond.

SALEM STREET, formerly the main road to Danvers and Salem, begins at Main street, opposite the Agricultural farm, crosses the Turnpike at the top of River hill, and ends at the Danvers line where it becomes Locust street.

SCHOOL AVENUE, extends from Main street to the school grounds.

SHENEWEMEDY. The Indian name applied to Topsfield in the earliest times, perhaps meaning—"the pleasant place by the running water."

SKUNK ISLAND. Elevated ground in Slough brook, a short distance north of River street.

SLOUGH BROOK. Flows into the Ipswich river and is crossed by River street at a point about halfway between Prospect street and Rowley Bridge street.

SNOOK'S DAM, or Snook's Hole. The small brook which passes under Perkins street near Meeting House lane flows into Mile brook. A few rods from Mile brook, the smaller stream at some earlier time was dammed and the locality as early as June, 1663, was known as "Sknookes hole." In a deed dated Jan. 18, 1674, this locality is called "Snake hole."

SOUTH SIDE. The territory lying on the south side of the Ipswich river.

SOUTH SIDE CEMETERY. Located on Rowley Bridge street near the Copper Mine lot. Half of its area was set aside for burial purposes and given by Joseph Herrick in 1740. The other half was given by David Cummins in 1814.

SPRINGVILLE. The locality about the junction of Ipswich street and the Newburyport and Boston turnpike. Also known as "Hardscrabble." It received its name "Springville," in 1870, from William Locke, who erected two guideboards bearing that name. It originated in the numerous excellent springs in the vicinity.



**STICKEY MEADOWS.** The meadows on the south side of the Ipswich river in the rear of the Pike and Peterson farms. They were laid out in the second division of common lands, having a width of  $5\frac{1}{2}$  rods. The name appears in deeds as early as 1670. For many years they were controlled by a corporation composed of the various owners and known as the Proprietors of the Stickey Meadows. The origin of the name is unknown unless from the tenacious quality of the mucky soil.

**STONE BRIDGE, or Arch Bridge.** The bridge across the Ipswich river, over which the Turnpike runs. It was built in 1854, then replacing a wooden bridge.

**STONE HOUSE.** A dwelling-house built of stone brought from Crooked pond, Boxford, that formerly stood on the easterly side of Salem street about half-way between the Turnpike and Wenham street. It was built in 1836 and taken down in 1885.

**SUGAR-LOAF HILLS.** In various parts of the town, but notably in and near the village, are several small conical elevations which have long been known as "sugar-loaf hills." One formerly existed on the present site of the Congregational church and was leveled in 1703 when the second meeting-house was built. Another, may be seen occupying a triangular space at the junction of Washington street and Grove street. The name was early applied to the hillock on the southerly side of Grove street, about the steep sides of which gathered the people when the Bi-Centennial of the incorporation of the town was celebrated in 1850. The rock formation is reddish and disintegrates upon being exposed to the action of frost. It is a decomposed form of granite, geologically known as arkose.

**SUMMER STREET,** connects Main street and High street.

**SWEENEYVILLE.** The collection of houses near the southern end of Main street. Named for Miles Sweeney who lived there for a number of years beginning with 1851.





**SYMONDS' PLAIN.** The sandy level north of Mile brook on either side of North street. This plain was owned by the Symonds family for nearly 175 years.

**SYMONDS' WOODS.** A name formerly applied to a stretch of wood land near Rowley bridge, now small in extent.

**THICK WOODS.** A name applied as early as 1647 to the locality lying easterly from the Lamson farm and originating in the dense growth of forest trees covering that part of the town.

**TOAD ISLAND.** A triangular area at Springville bounded by the Turnpike, Ipswich street, and the brook,—a favorite haunt for toads.

**TOLL HOUSE.** The house at the corner of Salem street and the Newburyport and Boston turnpike and built for the keeper of the turnpike gate who collected tolls at this point.

**TOWN PASTURE.** The pasture lying westerly from Pine Grove Cemetery and occupying the larger part of Bare hill. The land belongs to the town and primarily was purchased for the purpose of enlarging the limits of the cemetery.

**TOWNE'S BRIDGE.** The bridge crossing the river next below the stone bridge, and near the railroad bridge. It derives its popular name from the fact that all those living beyond the bridge, on the south side of the river, belonged to the Towne family.

**THE TURNPIKE.** The Boston and Newburyport Turnpike was built through Topsfield in 1804. The road runs in a nearly straight line from Newburyport to Boston.

**TODD'S CORNER.** The corner at the junction of Haverhill street and Ipswich street, so named for the owner of the house at the corner—Samuel Todd.

**UTICA.** The one-story building north of the J. B. Poor house on Grove street, formerly a shoe shop and of late years occupied by elderly men who have lived alone. It was removed to this location in 1872 by John Janes, who was the first to live in it and who removed to Utica, N. Y., hence the name.



**THE VALLEY.** The valley, or glen, south of the residence of Arthur A. Clarke and extending from the Turnpike to the rear of the Hodges house. Sometimes called "Perk. Towne's Valley," from the former owner—Perkins Towne.

**VALLEY ROAD.** The highway built in 1900 in part with money apportioned by the State Highway Commission. Beginning at High street near Towne's bridge it skirts the hillside, crosses the swamp beyond the Wenham and Danvers boundary stone, and enters Locust street in Danvers near the Sears farm. For nearly a century various routes had been discussed and even surveyed, by which the village of Topsfield might be reached without passing over River hill, and the present road takes its name from a previous plan of a proposed road through the valley between River hill and Towne's hill.

**WASHINGTON STREET,** begins at the junction of Main and High streets and passes through "the West End," crossing River street, and ends at the Boxford line.

**WENHAM CAUSEWAY.** Wenham street after it passes the Wenham boundary line is built over swampy land and has been known as the "causeway" or "cassey" since before 1659 when first mentioned in the Topsfield records.

**WENHAM STREET,** connects Salem street and High street, passing down "Grass hill" and leading to the "Wenham causeway."

**WEST END.** The territory lying on either side of Washington street, about a mile west of the village.

**WHEEL BROOK.** The brook which crosses Salem street a short distance south of the Dwinell farm. The name appears in deeds as early as 1670 and local tradition preserves the story of a man who attempted to cross this brook with his team and becoming mired, lost a wheel from his cart.

**WIGWAM HILL.** Two small elevations in a field south of River street, now belonging to Mrs. Sarah H. Garrett, said to have formerly been frequented by the Indians.





**WILD GOOSE POND.** The small pond between the Capen house, and the Holmes-Emery house.

**WILDES STREET,** begins at Boston street, crosses East street and ends at the Ipswich line, passing the old Dudley Wildes house.

**WILLOW TREE.** In the rear of the Albert W. Pace house, on High street, is a willow tree set out by Philander Anderson, surveyor, in 1836, to mark the geographical center of Essex County.

**WINTHROP'S BROOK.** The brook now known as Gravelly brook, which for a short distance forms the boundary line between Topsfield and Ipswich. The name appears as early as 1664.

**WINTHROP'S HILL.** A hill lying between Howlett's brook and Paine's hill. Mentioned as early as 1673. Without doubt named for John Winthrop.

**WITCH HILL.** The hill now owned by Thomas W. Pierce, and having an elevation 280 feet. The present mansion house is erected on the site of the house where lived Isaac Esty, son of Mary Esty who was executed as a witch in 1692. Hon. Benjamin W. Crowninshield, secretary of the Navy, was living here in 1825 and is said to have first applied the popular name.

**WOODEN BRIDGE.** There are four wooden bridges crossing the Ipswich river in Topsfield, but the bridge near Walsh's and Balch's and sometimes known by these names is generally spoken of as "the wooden bridge." It is also called "the river bridge." A bridge was built at this point before 1653, by Walter Roper, a carpenter from Ipswich.



## CAPT. JOHN GOULD'S PETITION IN 1694.

---

To the Hon<sup>ble</sup> William Stoughton Esq. lieu<sup>t</sup> Govern<sup>r</sup> of their Majesties Province of the Massachusetts Bay & the rest of the Honor<sup>ble</sup> Council now sitting in Boston Nov<sup>r</sup> 22, 1694.

The Humble Petition of John Gold of Topsfield. Whereas your Petition<sup>r</sup> received an Order from Maj.<sup>r</sup> Nathaniel Saltonstall in May 1684 to take a survey of y<sup>e</sup> estate and Condition of the Military Company in Topsfield, then and now under his Command, and among other things to provide a new flight of Colours & Drum, in obedience thereto y<sup>r</sup> Petitioner did lay out his owne money and procured them for the Company, and yo<sup>r</sup> Petition<sup>rs</sup> Son Served the Company as Drummer ever since for all which for Colours and drum there is due four pounds five shillings and his Service as drummer about eight pounds, and the Clerkes that were then and since being dead and several changes since so that there are no fines sufficient to defray the aforesd charge of twelve pounds.

your Petition<sup>r</sup> doth therefore humbly request that favour that your Hon<sup>r</sup> would direct to Some Course how he may be Satisfyed and if by the Towne of Topsfield, that then yo<sup>r</sup> Hon<sup>r</sup> would please to pass an Order to y<sup>e</sup> Select men or assessors of the Towne to rate the Inhabitants, or however else yo<sup>r</sup> Honors shall please to direct, that so yo<sup>r</sup> Petitioner may be reimbursed for the money he hath lay<sup>d</sup> out for y<sup>e</sup> Company Service, and yo<sup>r</sup> Petition<sup>r</sup> shall as in duty bound ever pray ec<sup>a</sup>

JOHN GOLD.

*Massachusetts Archives, Vol. 70, p. 233.*





THE  
EARLY RECORDS OF THE TOWN OF  
TOPSFIELD, MASS.

TRANSCRIBED BY H. FOLLANSBEE LONG.

---

*Continued from Vol. III, page 100.*

---

[102] At a lawfull meeting of y<sup>e</sup> Selectmen of Topsfield y<sup>e</sup> 10<sup>th</sup> Day of May 1699 in answer to an order from wenham for perambulation on ye line betwene Wenham and Topsfield. Capt. John How and Elisha Pirkins and Thomas Towne are Chosen to Joyne with Wenham gentlemen to renew as abouesaid. voted

Att a meeting of ye Selectmen may ye 2<sup>d</sup> 1699 then agreed y<sup>t</sup> y<sup>e</sup> line be perambulated and ye bounds renewed betwene our Towne and Topsfield: on tuesday ye 23<sup>d</sup> day of this instant may at about ten of ye clock in ye forenoone to meet at ye northwardly end of wenham Causway if faire weather if not then ye next faire day: and Sarg<sup>t</sup>. James freind and William fairfield too of y<sup>e</sup> preasont Selectmen: and John Batcheler iun<sup>r</sup> John Gott and John Moulton or any three of them or so many of them as shall apeere are apointed for said seruis to Joyne with such gentlemen of Topsfield as shall apere apointed for said seruis—copia vera as it stands entered in Wenham Towne Book exam<sup>d</sup>.

Pr. John Newman Towne Clark.

Copia vera compared atest Ephraim Dorman Towne clarke for Topsfield.



Wee whose names are hereunto subscribed being meet together in behalfe of our seauerall Townes Wenham and Topsfield to perambulate ye line and renew ye bounds betweene our said Townes we haue accordingly renewed said bounds as they haue bene formerly stated and settled by agreement made betwene our Towns as witnes our hands this 23 day of May 1699.

James frind  
William fairfield  
John Batcheller  
for Wenham

copia vera compared atest Ephraim Dorman Towne Clark for Topsfield.

At a lawfull meeting ye 19<sup>th</sup> of September 1699 of ye free-holders and others alowed by law of Topsfield Cap<sup>t</sup> How and Thomas Pirkins are Chosen to sarve on ye Jury of Tnalls at ye next Nubary Court. uoted

Boston aprill 27: 1699. Reseued of Mr. Joseph Borman Constable of Topsfield: 34 pounds in parte of a worrent for forty three pounds fittene shillings. Reseued for Mr. James Tailler Treasurer.

Pr. Jear Allin.

Copia vera atest Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke for Topsfield.

Boston Sept. ye 4<sup>th</sup> 1699. Reseued of Mr. Joseph Borman Constable of Topsfield nine pounds fittene shillings in full of a worrent for forty three pounds fittene shillings: Reseued for Mr. James Tailler Treasurer.

Pr. Jeremiah Allen.

Copia vera compared atest Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke for Topsfield.

16 of January 1699 or [1] 700 at a lawfull Towne meeting ye Towne did alow of Ephraim Dormans bill of charge—uoted quarter master Pirkins his bill of charg was alowed. uoted

The Towne hath giueen quartermaster Pirkins full power





to chuse a man to asist him in ye behalfe of ye Towne in that case to be tried at ye generall Court depending betwene Topsfield and Boxford. uoted

[103] Elisha Pirkins is allowed fiftene shillings silver for sweeping ye meeting house. uoted

At a lawfull meeting of ye Town of Topsfield the 5 day march 1699-1700 Lieut. Ephraim Dorman is Chosen Towne Clarke for y<sup>e</sup> year ensuing.

Ens. Samuell Howlet and Capt. John How and quarter-master Pirkins and Isaac Pabody and Jacob Towne inu<sup>r</sup> are chosen Selectmen to order ye prudensiall affaires of ye Towne for ye yeare ensewing thay weare chosen according to our usiall maner uoted and confermed by a maier uote. uoted

Ephraim Dormand and Isaac Easty iunr are chosen to sarue on ye Jury of trialls at ye next court to be houlden at ipswich. uoted

and Sarg<sup>t</sup> Isaac Easty is chosen graniuryman for ye yeare ensewing. uoted

John Comings is Chosen Constable for ye yeare ensewing. uoted

John Robbi[son] senr and Thomas Pearly and Phillip Knite are chosen serueyers for highways for ye yeare ensewing and Nathaniell Auerill is chosen serueyer of highwayes allso for ye yere ensewing. uoted

Ephraim Wilds and Beniamen Bigsbey are chosen fence vewers for ye yeare insewing. uoted

Sargt. John Houey and Mr. Timmothy Pirkins and William Towne are chosen Tithingmen for ye yeare ensewing. uoted

whareas Sargt. Thomas Dorman did mosion ye Towne that thay would alow him twenty shillings of what Edward Nearland was Rated and ye said Dorman was to gather: and ye said Dorman would loose twenty rather than contend at law with him the wholl being forty shilling: ye Towne did uote that thay would alow constable Dorman twenty shilings in siluer in ye next Towne Rate on that a count. uoted



at ye request of Jobe Auerill and sum others y<sup>t</sup> thay might raise ye hinder seat in ye back sid of ye meeting hous under ye gallery the Towne gaue them leue so to bee provided thay fill it with Towns men. uoted

Ens Town desents as to this uote.

The Towne haue renewed the former order about wood and timber as was made on ye tenth of march 1696 or 7. uoted

Boston december 5<sup>th</sup> 1699: Reseued of mr. John Curtious Constable of Topsfield seauentene pounds in parte of a worrent for twenty four pounds Reseued for Mr. James Tailer Treasurers' by Jer: allen.

£17-copia vera Compared atest Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke for Topsfield.

Boston fabruary 23<sup>r</sup> 1699-Reseued of Mr. John Curtious Constable of Topsfield seauenen pounds in full of a worrent for twenty four pounds Received for Mr. James Tayler Treasurer. Pr. Jer Allen.

£7-copia vera compared atest Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke for Topsfield.

The persons under writen are sworne to thare ofice march ye 7<sup>th</sup> 1699 or 1700-Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke John Comings Constable and John Robison sen<sup>r</sup> and Nathaniell Auerill serueyers Ephraim Wilds and Benjamin Bigsbye fence uewers sargent Houey and Mr. Timmothy pirkins Tithingmen sworne before coll Appleton. atest Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke for Topsfield.

att a lawfull meeting of ye Selectmen of Topsfield on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of august 1703 then went and laid out a Country Road from our Meeting Hous to the Towne Bridg over ye River and so on as the Road now gose through our Town to Salem Line.

John Gould Junr  
John Cummings, Ebenezer Averell  
Samuel Stanley, Thomas Perley

Selectmen of Topsfield.





[104] At a lawfull Towne meeting of ye Towne of Topsfield ye 2 day of aprill 1700.

whare as Salem haue a greed and impowered men to agree aboute a further settlement of a diuisionall line betwene Salem and Topsfield and haue sent to Topsfield that thay might apoint men for that end in answer thare unto Topsfield haue chosen Cap<sup>t</sup>. John How quortermaster Tobijiah Pirkins and Isaac Pabody and Joseph Towne Jun<sup>r</sup> and Ephraim Dorman and Impowered them to agree with Salem to confirme ye six miles exstent spasified in ye Generall Court did in 1643 and also for a firther confirmation of ye line all ready settelled in march ye 25<sup>th</sup> 1659 as it is thare spasified.

At a lawfull meeting of ye Selectmen of Topsfield ye 15 of march 1699 or 1700 John How and Ephraim Dorman and Isaac Pabody are chosen and apointed to run ye bounds with ye gentlemen of Ipswich apointed for y<sup>t</sup> end in perambulation and to renew ye bounds agreed.

copia vera Compared and entered  
atst Ephraim Dorman Towne  
Clarke for Topsfield.

Samuell Howlet in  
ye name and by order  
of ye Selectmen of  
Topsfield atst  
Ephraim Dorman  
Towne Clarke for  
Topsfield.

at a meeting of ye Selectmen of Topsfield ye 5<sup>th</sup> of april 1700 in answer to ye Selectmen of Ipswich we haue chosen and appointed men to attend y<sup>t</sup> seruiss thare names are as foloweth Ephraim Dorman Ens Samuell Howlet Isaac Pabody and John How to run and setle ye Bounds.

copia vera compared atest  
Ephraim Dorman Towne  
Clarke for Topsfield

John How by order in ye  
name of ye Selectmen of  
Topsfield.

We whose names are Subscribed being apointed by ye Townes of Ipswich and Topsfield Respecttiuely to run ye line between said Ipswich and Topsfield haue renewed ye bounds all ready stated: from ye apple tree in Leiut Thomas Parlyes field to a read oake marked with stones at it



betwixt mr. Bakers pond and said apple tree: on a straight line from said apple tree to said read oake and from said red oake to a white oake marked upon a hill a few rods from said pond: an y<sup>n</sup> as ye pond runs to a markt tree at ye end and next fosters and y<sup>n</sup> by ye former markt trees till it comes to m<sup>r</sup> Simonds farme so called and by said farme till it comes to ye stake by or nere a spring nere mr Winthrops corner in ye meadow: and from sd stake haue settled ye bounds on a straight line about two rods and a halfe westerly of Edward Nearlands now dwelling house to a stake and heape of stones: upon ye side of a hill called pains hill: and from said stake and stones westwardly to a heape of stones and stake nere ye brook and so to ye brook yt runs to Corpll Howlets and y<sup>n</sup> said brook runs into Ipswich Riuer: in testimony here of we haue set to our hands this 8<sup>th</sup> day of aprill anno: dom seauenteene hundred.

John How

Ephraim Dorman

Samuell Howlet

Isaac Peabody

John Appleton

John Wipple

Abraham How

William Howlet

John Pingry

copia vera compared and entered pr me Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke for Topsfield.

at a lawfull meeting of ye Selectmen this 19 of aprill 1700 we have apointed quortermaster Pirkins and Ens Samuell Howlet and capt iohn How or ye maior part of them to goe on perrambulation with Salem gentlemen apointed for yt end: and to meet at mr Joseph Porters on ye last tuesday of this instant aprill at ten of ye clocke by order of ye Selectmen of Topsfield.

Isaac Pabody.

copia vera compared and entered Pr me Ephraim Dorman Towne clarke.

[105] at a meeting of ye Selectmen of Salem aprill 2-1700 Ordered that capt Thomas flint mr Joseph Putnam mr Samuell Gedney mr John Trask or ye maior part of them or any two of them doe meet on ye Last tuesday of this instant aprill at ten of ye clock in ye morning at mr Joseph Porters with such as Topsfield shall apoint to perambulate bounds;





Pr. order of ye Selectmen.

Daniell Epes      Town Clarke.

copia vera compared atest Ephraim Dorman Town Clarke  
for Topsfield.

We whose names are underwritten have met with Topsfield  
men as above said and renewed the bounds to Crumwells  
rock from a white oake tree with stone[s] at it nere Wenham  
Causway this 30 of aprill 1700.

John Trask  
Joseph Putnam  
Samuell Gidney

copia vera Compared and entred Pr me atest Ephraim  
Dorman, Towne Clarke.

At a lawfull meeting of ye Towne of Topsfield ye 7<sup>th</sup> of  
May 1700 quortermaster Tobiih Pirkins is chosen Repre-  
sentitiue for to sarue at ye grate and Genarall court to be  
houlden at Boston on ye 29 of this instant.      voted

Whare as it doth apere that Salem hath giuen full power to  
thare Selectmen: to agree with Topsfield or men chosen in  
our Towns behalfe for a full settlement and conformasion of  
ye diuisionall Line betwene Salem and Topsfield: in ansuer  
thare unto Topsfield hath chosen capt John How and quor-  
termaster Tobiih Pirkins and Isaac Pabody and Joseph  
Towne iunr and Ephraim Dorman and hath giuen them full  
power to agree with Salem Gentlemen about lands and to  
conferme and establish the diuisionall Line and what the  
maior parte of them shall agree upon the Towne will stand  
by as vallued.      uoted

We whose names are under witen being apointed by ye  
Selectmen: to lay out a highway to goe with carts and  
hosis: from Thomas Pirkinsis in to ye way below En<sup>s</sup> Towns  
haue dun it: beginning at Thomas Pirkinsis a fence being  
on ye South Side: till we com behind his barne and a wal-  
nut tree marked on ye north side: and a black oak tree  
marked on ye south side: and ye plaine beten path all ye  
way to land formerly Thomas Brownings to two heapes of  
stones: one on ye south side and one on ye north side and



then ye old beaten path all ye way with trees marked on both sides till we com ouer ffosters bridg: and then ye path that goeth to Elisha Pirkinsis: till we come to a little oake tree marked and through his field to ye causeway that goeth ouer ye meadow and brook and then the plaine path till we com to Sargt. Easties pasture and then his pasture fence the bounds on the south side till we com in to ye Cuntry Rode. dat ye 26<sup>th</sup> of october 1699.

Samuell Howlet  
Elisha Pirkins

copia vera compared and entered atest Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke.

at a Lawfull Meeting of the Town of Topsfield ye Second Day of March 1702 the Town agreed that there should be no Trees cut down upon our Town Common untill further order on ye penalty of Twenty Shilling Pr Tree. voted

This is a true Copy as it stands on our Town Book attested by me Samuel Stanley Town Clerke for Topsfield.

allowed at a General Sessions of ye Peace holden at Ipswich march 30<sup>th</sup> 1703 the above order: or by Law: is Read Considered & allowed: and Entred with the County Records: accordingly.

attests Stephen Sewall Cler.

copia vera attests Samuel Stanley Town Clerke for Topsfield.

[106] Whare as thare hath arisen sauarall difaransis betwene ye Towne of Salem and ye Towne of Topsfield about ye bounds betwene ye said Townes and ye lands which were formerly granted by Salem to sauerall persons without ther six miles extant: by uertue of y<sup>e</sup> grant of y<sup>e</sup> Generall Court in y<sup>e</sup> yeare 1639 until y<sup>e</sup> 19<sup>th</sup> october 1658: at which time y<sup>e</sup> said Genarall courte did determen that what lands said Towne of Salem had granted before said 19 october 1658 the propriete thare of should belong to ye persens to whome thay were granted by Salem: and ye Towneship of said lands should belong unto ye Towne of Topsfield—now for ye preuening any firther deferences betwene ye said Townes for ye future we whose names are here unto sub-





scribed: being apointed and impowered by ye said Townes of Salem and Topsfield: to consider of agree and determen about ye said deferences: we doe agree and determen as followeth viz.—y<sup>t</sup> ye bounds betwene ye said Townes shall be and remaine to be on ye circomference Line: from Wenham Causway to Ipswich Riuer on Cromwells neck to three trees marked nere a rock on said neck as ye bounds haue bene stated and perrambulated this many yeares and no firther any pretence to ye contrary not with standing: and y<sup>t</sup> what so euer land weare formerly granted by y<sup>e</sup> towne of Salem to any person or persons befor ye 19<sup>th</sup> october 1658 which may fall without Salem Circomference Line before mentioned shall be hild and inioyed quietly and peaceably by ye said persons unto whom ye grants weare made and to thare heires and assigns for euer a cording to thare respectiue grants and bounds: allways provided that if any parte or parsell of such lands shall fall within Salem Circomference line before mentioned that then ye Towne of Topsfield is only to compleate and make up ye remainder of ye complymnt to ye full of such grant and grantes as they haue bene laid out and bounded: and firther that all ye land and meadow which lieth betwene Ipswich Riuer and ye afore said Circomference Line granted to Salem in September 1639: and after ward by an explanasion of said act in ye yeare 1643 ye same land was granted to Topsfield we say and agree that ye Towneship of ye said land shall be and remaine to Topsfield for euer: thay makeing good the grants to pertick-quiller persons as a fore said: and this to be and remaine and continew a finall end issue and determinasion of all contreuersies and difference betwixt said Townes or of any cause of differences: In Testimony whare of we ye said parties haue here unto afixed our hands and seales: this 14<sup>th</sup> day of may 1700 signed seled and dd in preasence of

John Higinson iun <sup>r</sup>	John How	Israell Porter
Daniell Epes	Ephraim Dorman	Samuell Gardner
	Tobijah Pirkins	Stephen Sewell
	Joseph Towne	Samuell Browne
		John Trask
		Joseph Putnam

*Copia vera comparat adest Ephraim Dorman  
Clarke for Topsfield*



Copia vera compred with ye origenall as it is here entered atest Ephraim Dorman—Towne Clarke for Topsfield.

At a lawfull meeting of ye proprietors and Commoners of ye Towne of Topsfield: ye 10<sup>th</sup> march 1696 or 7 it was ordered y<sup>t</sup> no wood shall be fallen on y<sup>e</sup> south side of ye Riuer on ye Common for fire wood: and no trees shall be fallen on ye north side of ye Riuer on Topsfield Common for fire wood under a foot and halfe ouer except in birch maple and popler on both sides of ye Riuer: and no timber to be falen on either sids of ye Riuer with out leaue from y<sup>e</sup> maior parte of y<sup>e</sup> Selectmen and who soeuer shall fall wood or timber contrary to ye orders abouesaid shall pay ye sum of ten shillings per tree to be recouered by ye Selectmen and euey one are to take notis if any falls trees contrary to ye orders abouesaid and thay are to informe ye Selectmen: and ye informers shall haue halfe ye fine for thare paines: and ye other halfe of ye fine as abouesaid to be disposed of as ye Towne shall giue order: and firther who euer haue liberty as aboue said for falling timber shall be in ioyned to take ye wholl top away in two months on the pennallty for falling trees as aboue said to be recouered as aboue said and those orders shall continew inforse till ye proprietors shall pass firther orders on ye same account uoted

copia uera compared as it stands on Topsfield Towne Records atest Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke for Topsfield.

at a lawfull meeting of ye Towne of Topsfield y<sup>e</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> day march 1699 or 1700 The Towne haue renewed y<sup>e</sup> former orders about wood [107] and Timber as was made ye 10<sup>th</sup>, march 1696 or 7

copia vera taken out of Topsfield Towne Records atest Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke for Topsfield

At a Generall Seasions of ye Peace houlden at Ipswich march 27<sup>th</sup>: 1700 ye aboue By laws weare read considered and a lowed atest Steuen Sewill Clarke

Copia vera compared atest Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke for Topsfield





At a lawfull Towne meting of ye Towne of Topsfield ye 28 day of august 1700 Sarg<sup>t</sup> Samuell Standly is Chosen a schooll master as ye law directes voted

The Towne haue giuen full power to ye Selectmen to call all ye Cunstable to an account as are defectiue and haue not clered with m<sup>r</sup> Capen upon ye a count of the Rate as ware Committed to ym to gather and pay to m<sup>r</sup> Capen voted

The Towne haue ordered y<sup>t</sup> y<sup>e</sup> Towne orderes in ye old Towne Book as giues power to Rate wast land: shall be transcribed in to ye new Towne Book voted

The Towne haue Chosen Cap<sup>t</sup> Gould and Leiuet Thomas Baker and Ephraim Dorman to meet ye gentlemen apointed by ye Honored genarall Courte to com and vew ye farmes as Boxford Claimes and to act in ye Towns behalfe on y<sup>t</sup> account voted

Capt John Gould and Isaac Pabody are Chosen to sarue on y<sup>e</sup> Jury of Trialls at ye next County Court to behoulden at Newbury on ye last tuesday of next September voted

At a lawfull Towne meeting ye 17<sup>th</sup> of december 1700 Ephraim Dorman being implyed in ye Townes behalfe concerning Ipswich Salem and Boxford in time and righting the Towne alows fiftene shillings voted

and quortermaster Pirkins his bill of charge of seauen pound eightene shilings and eight pence is a lowed voted

and Cap<sup>t</sup> Gould is alowed for his Time with ye gentlemen as came from ye Genarall Court a bout Boxfords peteson a bout m<sup>r</sup> Endicuts farme and Cap<sup>t</sup> Goulds farm and also for wrightings twelue shilings voted

and Leiut Baker is alowed six shilings for his time aboue said voted

and Capt Hows Bill of charge about publick bisnes is a lowed which is one pound fiftene shillings and eight pence voted

and Corp<sup>n</sup> Joseph is a lowed two shilings voted



and Ens Howlet is a lowed fower shilings voted

The Towne hath freed James Waters from all Rate as long  
as he liues voted

The Towne haue agreed to repaire ye meeting house for  
our preasent conueniance voted

At a lawfull meeting of ye Towne of Topsfield ye 14<sup>th</sup> of  
January 1700 or 1701 ye maior part of ye Towne declared  
that thay ware for haueing the new meeting house plased on  
ye plaine by mr Capens voted

and the Towne did agree to build a new meeting house by  
a maior part voted

[108] Leiut Thomas Baker and Cap<sup>t</sup> John How and quor-  
termaster Pirkins are chosen to goe to Ipswich to see if thay  
can preuaile with Ipswich to fauer thare inhabitence in thare  
Rates as are constant partakers of ye worship of God in our  
Towne that thay may be in corridged to be helpfull to us as  
to ye minisetry voted

ye Towne haue agreed to buld ye new meeting house two  
and forty foot wide and four and forty foot long voted

The Towne haue chosen Leiut Baker and quortermaster  
Pirkins and Sarg<sup>t</sup> Ridington a commity to agree with a car-  
pender a bute bulding a new meeting house voted

At a lawfull Towne meeting ye 10<sup>th</sup> of fabruary 1700 or  
1701 it was agreed to giue full power to a Commity to agree  
with ye Indians as lays claime to our lands voted

Cap<sup>t</sup> John Gould and Leiut Thomas Baker and Capt John  
How and Ens Samuells Howlet and Isaac Pabody are Chosen  
and haue full power in ye behalfe of ye Towne to agree with  
the Indians as lays Claime to our Lands voted

Leiut Thomas Baker is Chosen and fully impowered in ye  
behalfe of ye Towne to demande and Resciue ye mony as was  
contrebuted for ye redemson of John Heard and neuer was im-  
proued for y<sup>t</sup> eand and y<sup>e</sup> mony remaining in Leiut John  
Pabodys hand and ye said Baker is to reseue ye said mony  
for ye Towns use voted





At a lawfull Towne meting the 4 of march 1700 or 1701  
Lef<sup>t</sup> Ephriam Dorman is chosen Towne clark for the yere  
insuing voted

Ebineser Auerill is chosen Constable for ye yeare insew-  
ing voted

Capt John How and sargent Samuell Standly and Elisha  
Pirkins and Jacob Towne iun<sup>r</sup> and Ephraim Dorman Sen<sup>r</sup> are  
chosen Selectmen for ye yeare ensewing to order ye pruden-  
siall affairs of ye Towne voted

The Towne haue agreed y<sup>t</sup> all wast land in ye Towne shall  
be Rated to Towne Rates and minnisters Rates and it is to  
be ualewed at four pounds pir score voted

The Towne haue agreed y<sup>t</sup> quortermaster Pirkins Repre-  
sentatiue is to haue two pounds siluer as is in Leiut Bakers  
hand as he reseued of ye Leiut Pabody for ye Townes use and  
ye said mony is to be disconted with ye Reppresentatiue for  
his saruse at court voted

The Towne hath ordered Leiut Baker to diliuer forty  
shilings of ye Townes mony as is in his hand to Quarter-  
master Pirkins voted

Sargt John Auerill and Daniell Clark and John Houey  
iun<sup>r</sup> are chosen Tithing men for ye yeare ensewing voted

Samuell Towne and Timmothy Pirkins iun<sup>r</sup> and Joseph  
Towne ye third are chosen sirueyers for high ways for ye  
yeare ensewing voted

and Ephraim Wilds is chosen Sirueyor with ye other  
named voted

Sarg<sup>t</sup> John Gould and William Smith are chosen fence  
uewers for ye yeare enswing voted

Sargt John Houey and Sarg<sup>t</sup> Daniell Ridingtun are Chosen  
to sarue on ye Jury of trialls at next County Court to be  
houlden at Ipswich voted

Sargt Thomas Dorman is chosen gran Jury man for ye  
yere ensewing voted



The Towne haue declared by uote y<sup>t</sup> Quortermaster Pirkins shall procure of ye Honnored Generall Winthrop a copy of ye deed as ye Honored Gouvernor Winthrop had of ye Saggemore of agowam voted

The Towne haue agreed to pay all in mony for what ye Comity shall agree with a carpender or carpenders for bulding a new meeting hous for our Towne as was formerly uoted ye first third is to be payd next mickell muss: and the next third ye next mikell mus com twelue month and ye last third ye next mikell mus com two yeare from ye dat here of all to be paide in current mony of new England voted

[109] The Towne hath made choyce of Sargent Houey and Ephraim Dorman sen<sup>r</sup> to exchange a small parsell of land with Jacob foster y<sup>t</sup> is common land of our Towne for so much of his land voted

Boston July 11<sup>th</sup> 1700 Reseued of m<sup>r</sup> John Comings Constable of Topsfield by ye hand of Mr Daniell Clarke Twenty two pounds ninetene shillings in parte of a warrent for twenty four pounds: Reseued for m<sup>r</sup> James Tayler Treasurer 22:19  
Jer: alline

copia vera compared and entred by me Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke for Topsfield

Boston Sept-16<sup>th</sup> 1700 Reseiued of m<sup>r</sup> John Comings Constable of Topsfield twenty one shilling in full of ye worrent for twenty four pounds by ye hand of m<sup>r</sup> Daniell Clarke: for m<sup>r</sup> James Tayler Treasurer

per Dauid Jenner

copia vera compared and entred per me Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke for Topsfield

Boston Janu-ye 18<sup>th</sup> 1700 Reseued of mr John comings Constable of Topsfield forty eight pounds by ye hand of mr Daniell Clarke: being in full of a worrent for ye like sum for mr James Tayler Treusurer—

per Jer: allen

copia vere compared and entered per me Ephraim Dorman Towne clarke for Topsfield





Ephraim Dorman being chosen Towne Clarke was sworne to ye faithfull discharg of y<sup>t</sup> place before ye Honored Co<sup>ll</sup> Wanright ye 11<sup>th</sup> of January 1700 or 1701 Sargt John Auerill and Daniell Clarke and John Houey iun took y<sup>e</sup> oath of Tithingmen: and Ephraim Wilds and Samuell Towne and Joseph Towne y<sup>e</sup> third took ye oath of sirueyers of highways: and Sarg<sup>t</sup> John Gould and William Smith took ye oath of fence uewers those ware sworne by ye Selectmen of Topsfield ye 17<sup>th</sup> of march 1700—1701

at alawfull Towne meeting ye 24 march 1700 or 1701 Corp<sup>ll</sup> John Curtious and Joseph Towne sen<sup>r</sup> are chosen to see y<sup>t</sup> y<sup>e</sup> order for ye preseruasion of wood and timber be kept on ye south side of Reuer and Sarg<sup>t</sup> John Auerill and Thomas Dorman iunr are chosen to see y<sup>t</sup> ye order for ye preseruasion of wood and timber be kept on ye north side of ye Reuer  
voted

Sargt John Houey is Chosen to prefer ye Towne order for Rateing wast land to haue it Confirmed at ye Honored Courte to be houlden at Ipswich which is ye next inferyor Court of pleas  
voted

and the Towne haue agreed y<sup>t</sup> ye Selectmen shall dispose of ye parsonage house all or any parte of it for ye use of ye Towne  
voted

Leit Baker and Ephraim Dorman are Chosen to vew land as John Houey iun<sup>r</sup> desirous to exchange with ye Towne and to make report of ye same to ye Towne  
voted

may ye 2: 1701 acording to ye Towne order we haue exchanged a bout an aker of Topsfield common for an aker of Jacob ffoster his land that now his land by his house is bounded by Topsfield Common begining at a read oake tree marked with stones at it: on ye north side of ye ford by Thomas Pearlyes house: so on a straight line westwardly to a white oake marked with stons at it: from thence norwestwardly to an other whit oake marked with stones at it: and so on a line to a stake with stones at it: and on a line north-eastwardly to a stake with stones at it: standing in Ipswich Line

Ephraim Dorman sen<sup>r</sup>  
John Houey sen<sup>r</sup>



I am fully satisfied with what you haue dun as witnes my  
hand Jacob ffoster

copia vera compared atest Ephraim Dorman Towne Clarke  
for Topsfield

[110] At a lawfull meeting ye 5<sup>th</sup> of may 1701 as ye law  
directs Quartermaster Pirkins is Chosen Representatiue to  
sarue at ye next Genarall Court to be houlden at Boston  
voted

Capt Gould and Quor<sup>r</sup> Tobiiiah Pirkins and sargt John  
Houey and sargt Daniell Redington and Ephraim Dorman are  
chosen a commity and haue full power giuen them to agree  
with Boxford or men in thare Towns behalfe to put a finall  
issue to all deferences about land in contreuery and to set-  
tle bounds betwene said Towns voted

ye Towne haue agreed y<sup>t</sup> in case ye commityes of Tops-  
field and Boxford doe not agree about lands in contreuery:  
then Topsfield commity are to procure an artis to run ye  
lines a cording to Court Grants and to draugh a drft for a  
plaine explainasion thare of to informe ye Honored Court of  
ye same voted

At a lawfull Towne meeting ye 24<sup>th</sup> of June 1701 the  
Towne did agree that y<sup>t</sup> ye charge as did arise about a gree-  
ing with ye indians a bout ye lands of our Towne of Tops-  
field shall be raised on ye lands in our Towne only voted

At a lawfull meeting of ye Towne of Topsfield ye 19<sup>th</sup> of  
Sept 1701 Capt John Gould and Capt John How are chosen  
to sarue on ye Jury of trialls at ye next County Court to be  
houlden at Nubary voted

Sargent Samuell Standly being chosen schoole master for-  
merly and now confermed by uote in ye p<sup>l</sup>ce: and also for  
ye better incorridgment of him in ye place The Towne  
haue agreed to giue him fīue pounds in siluer for this next  
yeare ensweing besides euery one allowing for thare childrens  
learning voted





At a lawfull Towne meeting y<sup>e</sup> 31 of october 1701 capt John How is chosen to sarue on ye Jury of Tryalls at ye next superyor Court at Salem voted

m<sup>r</sup> Timmothy Pirkins is chosen a Grand Jury man to sarue at ye next Suprior Court at Salem voted

At a lawful Towne meeting ye 2 day of december 1701 it was agreed upon that ye Towne doth leue it with ye Selectmen to raise ye Meeting house Rate according to thare best descreasion haucing respect to ye law conserning heads and incum in a espeesiall maner voted

know all cristian people by thes preasents that whareas I Samuells English Indian Heir to Musquanomenit Sagamore of Agawom for and in considerasion of three pounds in mony in hand payd to my full sattisfaction doe absolutly quit claime to y<sup>e</sup> Towne of Topsfield of all my right: that I haue had or euer might haue had: within ye bounds or limmits of y<sup>e</sup> Towne of Topsfield: as it hath bene by Genarell Court established and to which land by vertue of my aforesaid heirship I doe look upon my self as the rightfull owner of: also I doe hereby oblidge my selfe Heirs Executers: &c: to ye Towne of Topsfield to defend them in thare posestion and in Joyment of ye aforesaid said premises for euer and to bare them harmless and in damnifye from any other persons whatsoeuer whether English or Indian that shall lay anny claime to ye premisis or any part thare of that hather to bene improued or posedes by ye Towne aforesaid: by vertue of any Indian title or conueyence I y<sup>e</sup> aforesaid Samuells English doe a gaine declare that in considerasion of three pounds corrent mony in hand paid by a committy apointe by y<sup>e</sup> Towne of Topsfield to agree with mee in behalfe of said Towne: doe for my selfe and Heirse &c: renounce and Relinguish: all my reall or sposed Right with in y<sup>e</sup> limmits aforesaid: and doe hereby confirme to y<sup>e</sup> committy aforesaid: in behalfe of said Towne and to thare Heirs &c: for euer: (ye names of y<sup>e</sup> comity being Cap<sup>t</sup> John Gould Leiu<sup>t</sup> Thomas Baker Cap<sup>t</sup> John How En<sup>s</sup> Samuells Howlet and Isaac Pa-body) ye afore said premises: and y<sup>t</sup> it shall be lawfull to and for ye said Towne for euer here after to haue hould




quietly and peaceably in Joy ye [111] ye premises thay thare heirs Executors Administrators and assigns foreuer in testimony whare of I ye said Samuell English haue here vnto set my hand and seale: this twenty eight day of march anno doming one thousand seuen hundred and one: and in y<sup>e</sup> thirteenth yeare of his maiastie's Reigne William the third of England &c

signed sealed and diliuered  
in ye preasence of witnesses

Joseph Capen

John Pricherd

Nathaniell Pearly

ye mark of  English

Ipswich may y<sup>e</sup> fortenth day 1701 then y<sup>e</sup> a boue said Samuell English personally apered and acknowledged this instrement to be his free act and deede be for mee

John Appleton: Justis of ye peace

copia vera compared and entred per me Ephraim Dorman Towne Clark for Topsfield

At a Genarell Court held at Boston 13<sup>th</sup> of y<sup>e</sup> first month 1638 Maschannomet the Sagamore of aggawam acknowledged that hee had reseiued twenty pounds of M<sup>r</sup> John Winthrop iun<sup>r</sup> for all his lands in Ipswich for which he acknowledged himselfe fully satisfyed as in the courte Book of Reacord at that time doth apere first Book page 240 as atest Edwerd Rawson Seacretary

At a Genarell Court held at Boston on y<sup>e</sup> 15<sup>th</sup> day of february 1682 capt Waite Winthrop son of John Winthrop aboue mentioned and one of his Exer<sup>es</sup> presented y<sup>e</sup> Originall bill of sale to his late father from said Maschannomet his hand to the Gouverner and maiastrets then in Court desireing it might be recorded which being granted by ye Court is as foloweth—

I mascannomet Sagamore of aggawam doe by these preasents acknowldig to haue reseiued of m<sup>r</sup> John Winthrop the sum of twenty pounds in full satisfaction of all y<sup>e</sup> right property and claime I haue or ought to haue vnto all y<sup>e</sup> land lying and being in ye Bay of Aggawam alias Ipswich being






so called now by y<sup>e</sup> English: as well all such land as I formerly reseued unto my owne vse at chibacko as also all other land belonging unto me in those partes: m<sup>r</sup> Dumers farme exsepted only: and I here by relinguish all y<sup>e</sup> right and interest I haue unto all ye hauens Riuers cricks Ilands huntings and fishings with all y<sup>e</sup> woods swamps timber and whatsoever else is or may be in or upon y<sup>e</sup> said ground to me belonging: and I doe hereby acknowldg to haue reseueed full satisfaction from y<sup>e</sup> said John Winthrop for all former agreements touching y<sup>e</sup> premisies or any parte of them and I doe hereby binde myselfe to make good y<sup>e</sup> fore said bargain and sale unto ye said John Winthrop his heirs and assigns foreuer and to secure him against the title and claime of all other Indians and natines what so euer witnes my hand this 28<sup>th</sup> June 1638

Mascannomet

witnes hereunto

John Joyliffe Thomas Coytimore  
James Dowing Robart Harding

his  mark

This Deed aboue written so signed and witnessed: being compared with y<sup>e</sup> originall word for word stands here thus entred and recorded at y<sup>e</sup> request of s<sup>d</sup> Cap<sup>t</sup> Waite Winthrop this 15<sup>th</sup> day of fabruary 1682 as atest Edward Rausen seacretary

A true Copy as a peres in y<sup>e</sup> Records of y<sup>e</sup> Genarall Court  
—Exammoned

per Isaac Addington seacretary

copia vera compared atest Ephraim Dorman

Towne Clarke for Topsfield

[112] At a lawfull Towne meeting y<sup>e</sup> 20<sup>th</sup> day of January 1701 or 2 it was a greed upon y<sup>t</sup> ye Pulpit shall be placed on ye north side of ye new meeting house voted

and y<sup>e</sup> Towne did agree y<sup>t</sup> y<sup>e</sup> seats shall be plased after y<sup>e</sup> maner as thay be placed in Rowly meeting house and y<sup>e</sup> fue seates before y<sup>e</sup> Pulpit is to be sixtene foot long voted

and m<sup>r</sup> capens pue is to be placed next the pulpit stairs voted



At a lawfull Towne meeting y<sup>e</sup> 3<sup>d</sup> of march 1701 or 2  
sarg<sup>t</sup> Samuells Standly is chosen Towne Clarke for ye yeare  
ensewing voted

John Robison sen<sup>r</sup> is chosen constable for ye yeare ensew-  
ing voted

corp<sup>l</sup> Joseph Towne and Sarg<sup>t</sup> Samuells Standly and m<sup>r</sup>  
Timmothy Pirkins and Isaac Pabody and Sarg<sup>t</sup> John Gould  
are Chosen Selectmen for ye yeare insewing voted

Daniell clarke is chosen gran Juryman for y<sup>e</sup> yere ensew-  
ing voted

Elisha Pirkins and Sarg<sup>t</sup> John Auerill are chosen to sarue  
on y<sup>e</sup> Jury of trialls of y<sup>e</sup> next Court to behoulden at Ips-  
wich voted

beniamen Easty and John Borman and Thomas Gould and  
John Nickalls and Timmothy Pirkins junier are chosen seru-  
icers for y<sup>e</sup> yere ensewing voted

Thomas Pirkins and corp<sup>l</sup> Jacob Towne and Joseph Bor-  
man are chosen Tithingmen for ye yere ensewing voted

John Houey iun<sup>r</sup> and Thomas Robison and John ffrench  
Juner are Chosen fence uewers for ye yere ensewing voted

The Towne haue left it to ye Selectmen to make orders  
aboute ye Rames voted

May: 16: 1701 then or before I had resiued y<sup>e</sup> full of  
what was due to mee: on rate account in pay and mony for  
y<sup>e</sup> yeare 1691 which was committed to constable clarke for  
said yere togethar I say resiued y<sup>e</sup> full per mee Joseph Capen

Topsfield May y<sup>e</sup> 16 1701 Copia vera compared atest  
Ephraim Dorman Towne Clark for Topsfield

Samuel Stanley being chosen Towne Clark was Sworn to  
the faithful discharge of that place before y<sup>e</sup> Hon<sup>d</sup> Colo<sup>l</sup>  
Apleton: ye 5<sup>th</sup> day of march 1701 or 2

Benjemen Esty and Thomas Gould and John Nichols and  
John Borman and Timothy Perkins took the oath of sur-





veyers of high wayes and Thomas Perkins and Corp<sup>n</sup> Jacob Town and Joseph Borman took the oath of tything men, and John Hovey Jun<sup>r</sup> and John french Jun<sup>r</sup> took the oath of fence veiwers, and Thomas Robinson took y<sup>e</sup> oath of a fence veiwer these were Sworn before the Selectmen of Topsfield y<sup>e</sup> tenth day of march: 1702 atest Samuel Stanley Town Clark for Topsfield

At a Lawfull meeting of the Town of Topsfield march the 17<sup>th</sup> 1702 Nathaniel Avirill was Chosen then Constable for the Town of Topsfield for the year Insueing and sworn by Sam<sup>l</sup> Stanley Town Clerk voted

At a Lawfull meeting of the Town of Topsfield march y<sup>e</sup> 17<sup>th</sup> 1702 Thomas Town and Mickill Dwanill were chosen to see that no timber be tooke off of the Common next to wenham bounds voted

At a Lawfull Meeting of ye Town of Topsfield the 2<sup>d</sup> Day of March: 170<sup>2</sup> The Town agreed that no Man in the Town shall cut down any Trees upon our Town Common untill further order, on y<sup>e</sup> penalty of Twenty Shillings per Tree voted

[113] At a Lawfull meeting of y<sup>e</sup> freeholders and others of Topsfield allowed by law the 6<sup>th</sup> day of May 1702 Lieut Ephrim Dorman is chosen Representitive to serve at y<sup>e</sup> General Court to be holden at Boston one ye 27<sup>th</sup> day of may Instant voted

Ensyne Samuel Howlet, and Sarg<sup>t</sup> John Hovey are chosen to serve one the gran Jury at the Superiour court to be held at Ipswich one ye 18<sup>th</sup> of may Instant: and Lieut Thomas Baker, and Thomas Perly are Chosen to serve one y<sup>e</sup> Jury of trials at y<sup>e</sup> Same Court voted

At a meeting of the Selectmen of Topsfield May 6 1702 haue apointed and Impowered M<sup>r</sup> Isaac Pebody, Elisha Perkins and Thomas Town to goe one parambulation with such of wenham as are apointed for that End one the bounds between wenham and Topsfield and to meet one y<sup>e</sup> 18<sup>th</sup> of may Ins<sup>t</sup> at ten of the klok in fore-noon at the west End of wenham Casway



Copia vera atest Samuel Stanley Town Clark for Topsfield Samuel Stanley in y<sup>e</sup> name of y<sup>e</sup> rest of y<sup>e</sup> selectmen of Topsfield

At a Lawfull meeting of the Town of Topsfield may 18<sup>th</sup> 1702 Quar<sup>t</sup> mas<sup>r</sup> Perkins Lieut Ephrim Dorman and Isaac Pebody and Nathaniel Avirill & Sarg<sup>t</sup> John Gould; are Chosen a commitie to meet with boxford Commitie to settle the bounds between our Towns according to General Court Grant voted

The Town agreed to prefe<sup>r</sup>e a petition to the General Court provided the commities doe not agree voted

The Town have agreed to and Impowered Lieu<sup>t</sup> Ephraim Dorman and y<sup>e</sup> Selectmen to prefer a petition to the Hon<sup>d</sup> General Court in behalfe of ye town for a further hearing of ye case between Boxford and Topsfield voted

Nathaniel Avirell & Corp<sup>l</sup> Daniel Clark & Ens<sup>n</sup> Jacob Town and Ephrim Willd and Isaac Pebody are Chosen to runc the Line and renew the bounds between the Cowe Common and the Lots voted

The Selectmen are to see after Incroachments upon the Common voted

At a Meeting of the Selectmen of Wenham Aprill 25 1702 they then apointed that our Town bounds between our Town & Topsfield be perambulated & renewed one the 18<sup>th</sup> day may next Insuing at ten of y<sup>e</sup> klok in y<sup>e</sup> fore-noon if it be fair wether but if it be fowle wether then one y<sup>e</sup> next faire day at the Same hour of the day and to meet at the west end of wenham Causway and Joseph Herick and Theophelos Rix and Samuel ffiske or any two of them are appointed to meet with such of Topsfield as shall be sent to performe said work by order of ye Selectmen Tho<sup>s</sup> ffiske Clark

Copia vera atest Sam<sup>l</sup> Stanley Town Clark for Topsfield

We whose names are under written being appointed to meet with such of Topsfield as were appointed for to renew y<sup>e</sup> bounds betwixt each Town and have renewed the bounds





as have bin Renewed according to agreement the 18<sup>th</sup> of May 1705

Isaac Peabody  
Elisha Perkins  
Thomas Town

Samuel ffiske  
Joseph Herick  
Theophilous Rix

Copia vera attests Samuel Stanley Recorder for Topsfield

At a meeting of the Selectmen of Topsfield June ye: 3: 1702 did then appoint Sarg<sup>t</sup> John Gould and Samuel Stanley Sen<sup>r</sup> to lay out a way from y<sup>e</sup> new meeting House to M<sup>r</sup> Capens Causway which accordingly we have done. John Gould: Samuel Stanley

Attests Samuel Stanley Towne Clark

At a lawful meeting of y<sup>e</sup> Town of Topsfield June y<sup>e</sup> 8<sup>th</sup> 1702 the Town then agreed that y<sup>e</sup> new Meeting House should be set upone y<sup>e</sup> hill which is Leveled for that End, which is one the plane by M<sup>r</sup> Capens voted

feb. 26<sup>th</sup> 170<sup>1</sup> then I Received of Joseph Borman Cunstable for y<sup>e</sup> year 1698 what was due to me one Rate account for y<sup>e</sup> said year and was committed to him by y<sup>e</sup> Select of Topsfield for said year, to gather I say then or before Received the full of what was due to me one Rate account by me Joseph Capen

Copia vera attes<sup>t</sup> Samll Stanley Town Clark for Topsfield

[1114] At a Lawfull Meeting of y<sup>e</sup> Inhabitants of y<sup>e</sup> Town of Topsfield July 31 1702 the Town then agreed and gave Lieu<sup>t</sup> Ephrim Dorman full power to Employ an attorney or attorneys as may be needful for managing the Case between Boxford and Topsfield: and allso the Town Impowered the Selectmen to allow such money as they shall think needful for y<sup>e</sup> carying one of the same voted

the Town agreed that four front: seats in the New Meeting-House should be made about twelve foot Long voted

At a Lawfull town meeting Septem<sup>r</sup> 18<sup>th</sup> 1702 John Pric-hit is chosen to serue one Jury of trials at Newbery Court voted



At a Lawfull meeting of y<sup>e</sup> Town of Topsfield Novem<sup>r</sup> 18<sup>th</sup> 1702 the Town then agreed to Rate M<sup>r</sup> Endicotts farme as formerly voted

Cap<sup>t</sup> John Gould is allowed one pound & foure shillings for a Gun which he bought to send Nerland out with: which Gun is now apart of y<sup>e</sup> Town s[t]ock voted

wee whos Names are under writen being sworn to aprise a Horstaken up by John Borman: he is a dark cullered Hors Branded on the near Shoulder: and hath two whit saddle spots: and a half peney cut out of the right Ear he is thought to be an olde Hors: we doe aprise him at thirty Shillings in money Datd the 12<sup>th</sup> day of Desem<sup>r</sup> 1702

John How  
Timothy Perkins

Copia vera attests Samuel Stanley Town Clerk for Topsfield

At a Lawfull meeting of the Town of Topsfield y<sup>e</sup> 17<sup>th</sup> of february 1702 or 3 Capt John Gould is chosen Representative to attend at the Hon<sup>d</sup> General Court to be holden at Boston on the Tenth Day of March next Insuing y<sup>e</sup> Dat here of voted

At a Lawfull meeting of y<sup>e</sup> Town of Topsfield the 2 day march 170<sup>2</sup> Sarg<sup>t</sup> Samuel Standly was Chosen Towne Clarke for ye yeare in sewing voted

Phillip Knight is chosen Constable for y<sup>e</sup> year Insuing voted

Deacon Thomas Dorman; Jacob Town; Elisha Perkins; Isaac Estey Jun<sup>r</sup> and Samuel Stanley are Chosen Selectmen for the year Insuing voted

Michill Dwaniell Jun<sup>r</sup> and Zecheus Gould; Amos Dorman and Steben Cumings are Chosen Surveyors of high-wayes for the year Insuing voted

Ephrim Wild and Joseph Town Sen<sup>r</sup> John Robisson Sen<sup>r</sup> and Thomas Robisson are Chosen Tithing-men for the year Insuing voted





Thomas Perley and Thomas Dorman Jun<sup>r</sup> are Chosen  
fence viewers for y<sup>e</sup> year Insuing voted

Lieut Tobijah Perkins is chosen grand Jury-man for the  
year Isuing voted

Lieut Ephrim Dorman and Ebenezer Averell are Chosen  
to Serve on the Jury of Trials at y<sup>e</sup> next Court to be holden  
at Ipswich voted

Samuel Smith & Thomas Dwaniel; John Robisson Jun<sup>r</sup>  
are Chosen Hawards for the year Insuing voted: Michill  
Dwaniell & John Town are chosen hogringers voted

the Town agreed that noeman in y<sup>e</sup> Town shall cut down  
any Trees upon the Common (on Ether Side of y<sup>e</sup> River)  
untill furdur order on y<sup>e</sup> pennalty of twenty shillings and y<sup>e</sup>  
one halfe of y<sup>e</sup> fine is to goe to y<sup>e</sup> informer & the other half  
to y<sup>e</sup> Towns. vse voted

the Town agreed that Every man that hath Timber Cut  
down on y<sup>e</sup> Comon In a fortnight after y<sup>e</sup> date hereof shall  
take it a way or Else it shall be forfeited voted

cap<sup>t</sup> John Gould; Jacob Town; Isaac Estey; Ephrim  
Wilde and Daniel Clarke are chosen to look after y<sup>e</sup> timber  
on y<sup>e</sup> common both sides of ye River to see that no more  
Timber may be cut down on the Town common: untill fur-  
der order voted

The Surveyors of highwayes fence viewers, & tithing-men  
chose on the second day of March 170<sup>3</sup> for y<sup>e</sup> year Insuing  
were Sworn to the faithfull discharg of their Respective duties  
by the Selectmen on y<sup>e</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> day March 170<sup>3</sup>

attests Samuel Stanley Town Clarke for Topsfield

[115] The 6<sup>th</sup> Day of March 170<sup>3</sup> the selectmen chosen  
for that year took the Assessor oath before me Samuel Stan-  
ley Town Clarke: attested by me Sam<sup>l</sup> Stanley Town  
Clerke

We whos Names are under written being Chosen by y<sup>e</sup>  
Town of Topsfield to runn the Line between y<sup>e</sup> Cowe Com-



mon and the Lots: we begun at a great white oak tree near y<sup>e</sup> River which is y<sup>e</sup> olde bound tree; and from thence about sixteen Rod to a heap of stons with a stake; and from thence to a Red oak tree which is the olde bound tree: standing about twenty Rods Esteward from Michill Dwaniell Jun<sup>r</sup> house; making a bounds at Every forty Rods End; this being the Line Eastwardly then: begining at y<sup>e</sup> above said red oak tree to a heap of stons & a stake about twenty six Rods from y<sup>e</sup> said Red oak tree: and from thence to a heap of Rokes being the Reputed bounds between the Common and y<sup>e</sup> Lots; making a bou[n]ds at Every forty Rods End: and from thence to a black oak tree standing on y<sup>e</sup> Ridge between John Curtis house and his sons house; making abou[n]ds at Every forty Rods End; betwixt y<sup>e</sup> said heap of Rocks and the oak tree; and from the above-said black oak tree by the same Rule; we finde that John Curtis Sen<sup>r</sup> his orchard is a littel of it in the Common; and to run uppon a straight Line to Endicotts Line we finde that y<sup>e</sup> above said Curtis hath taken in a conciderable deale of the Common; we finde y<sup>t</sup> John Curtis Jun<sup>r</sup> hath taken in a Slipe of Land; we finde that Jacob Town Jun<sup>r</sup> hath taken in a Slipe of Land; we finde that John Perkins hath taken in a Slipe of Land; we finde that Michill Dwaniell and his son hath taken in a conciderable parcell of Land which we Judge is common and young Dwaniells house is as we Judg upon the common; and we find that Thomas Town hath taken in a Slipe of Land: Dated y<sup>e</sup> Second day of Desember 1702

Jac[o]b Town  
Daniel Clarke  
Ephraim Willdes

This is a true Copy compared and Entred by me Samuel Stanley Town Clerk for Topsfield

At a Lawfull meeting of the Town of Topsfield y<sup>e</sup> 26<sup>th</sup> of March 1703 the Town Chose Samuel Stanley to be School-master for y<sup>e</sup> year Insuing and left it to the Select-men to provide a School-House as soon as they could Conveniently  
voted





Ephraim Willd tooke y<sup>e</sup> oath as Tithingman before y<sup>e</sup> Selectmen y<sup>e</sup> 26<sup>th</sup> of March 170<sup>3</sup> attest Samuel Standley Town clark

At a lawfull Meeting of the Town of Topsfield 23 apr<sup>ll</sup> 1703 Lieut Thomas Baker is Chosen Commissioner to Joyn with the Selectmen in takeing an account of the Towns Estate and to carry it in to the Shere Town voted

Chosen to Parambulate Topsfield Line M<sup>r</sup> Jonathan Putnam M<sup>r</sup> James Lendall M<sup>r</sup> Benjemin Putnam M<sup>r</sup> John Pickering or any two of them to Meet at y<sup>e</sup> House of Deac<sup>n</sup> Edward Putnam with Topsfield men on tusday Aprill y<sup>e</sup> 20 1703 at eight of the Clock in the morning; Daniel Epes T. Clerk

copia vera attests Samuel Stanley clerk for Topsfield

At a Meeting of y<sup>e</sup> Selectmen of Topsfield Aprill 16<sup>th</sup> 1703 then appointed and Impowered Deac Thomas Dorman and Elisha Perkins & Jacob Town to goe on Parambulation with such of Salem as are appointed for that end on the bounds between our Townes and to meet at the House of Deac Edward Putnams—by order of the Selectmen Samuel Stanley Town clerk

We whose names are under written being chosen by y<sup>e</sup> Town of Salem and the Town of Topsfield to Perambulat on y<sup>e</sup> Line between Salem & Topsfield have accordingly mett, and in behalfe of each Town owned and renewed a Red oake Tree with a heap of Stones at it: Commonly Called Cromwells Rock neare the River, from thence to a heap of Stones between three white oake Trees by a great Ash Swamp then to a heap of Stones near Nickoleses Brook, then to a Dead Tree with a heap of stones at it near the head of Smiths Medow; then to a crooked black oake Tree [116] near wheel Brook and then to a white oake Tree with Stones at it near Wenham Causway—Dat 23 Apr<sup>ll</sup> 1703

Deac Thomas Dorman  
Elisha Perkins  
Jacob Towne

Jonathan Putnam  
John Pickering  
Benjemin Putnam

copia vera attest Samuel Stanley Town Clerk



At a Lawfull Meeting of the freeholders and other Inhabitants Quallified as y<sup>e</sup> Law directs Lieu<sup>t</sup> Ephraim Dorman is Chosen Representative to attend at y<sup>e</sup> General Court for ye year Insuing voted

cap<sup>t</sup> John How & Ephraim Willd is chosen to serve on the Jury of Trials, and corp<sup>l</sup> John Curtis to Serve on y<sup>e</sup> Grand Jury at Ipswich Court to be held on y<sup>e</sup> 3<sup>d</sup> tuesday of May 1703 voted

At a meeting of y<sup>e</sup> selectmen of Ipswich Aprill 20-1703 it is ordered y<sup>t</sup> y<sup>e</sup> bounds between our Town and Topsfield be renewed as the Law directs: the persons chosen to act therein are as followeth: Sarg<sup>t</sup> Samuel Hart Sarg<sup>t</sup> Robart Lord, M<sup>r</sup> Phillip fowler & Edward Nealand and that speedy notice be Given to ye Selectmen of Topsfield in order, to their appointing of persons to Meet and to act therein, and y<sup>e</sup> Day appointed to Perform Said work is on y<sup>e</sup> Eleventh Day of May next at on of y<sup>e</sup> clock of said Day The place appointed to Meet at is at the Hous of L<sup>t</sup> Perleys, Aprill 20 1703 attests Daniel Rogers Clerk for Ipswich

We whose Names are under writen being appointed and Impowred by y<sup>e</sup> Select-men of Ipswich and Topsfield to Renew y<sup>e</sup> Bounds between Said Towns; accordingly mett and renewed y<sup>e</sup> Bounds as followeth; begining at an Apple Tree in Lieu<sup>t</sup> Perleys field and so to an oak with stones at it; accordingly to a white oake on a hill near m<sup>r</sup> Bakers Pond the Pond being the Bounds and a Tree marked at the end of y<sup>e</sup> Pond next fosters with stones at it; and so by the marked Trees till it comes to m<sup>r</sup> Symonsses farme; and by Said farme till it comes to a stake by or near m<sup>r</sup> Winthrops Corner in the Meadow, and from said stake to a stake on the side of an hill Called Pains hill and from thence westwardly to a stake with stones at it: near the Brook; and so to the Brook and as the Brook runs by Corp<sup>l</sup> William Howlets to Ipswich River this 12<sup>th</sup> of May 1703

Ipswich

Topsfield

Sarg<sup>t</sup> Sam<sup>l</sup> Hart  
Phillip fowler

Thomas Dorman  
Elisha Perkins





Robert Lord

Ephraim Dorman

John Pangry

Copia vera attests Samuel Stanley Town Cler. for Top

At a Lawfull meeting of The Town of Topsfield June y<sup>e</sup> 18<sup>th</sup> 1703 The Town agreed to Chuse a Commitie to Treat with a Comitie of Boxford Concerning Setteling a Duiding Line between Boxford and Topsfield voted

[117] Lieu<sup>t</sup> Ephraim Dorman M<sup>r</sup> Isaac Peabody Clark Elisha Perkins and Corp<sup>n</sup> Jacob Town and Nathaniel Averell; are chosen a commitie according To the Advise of The General Court and the Towne of Topsfield doth Give full Power To our Comitie to Agree w<sup>th</sup> a commitie of Boxford in behalf of Topsfield and Boxford To Determin the Diffierence between the Said Towns if They Can In Settelling a Divisional Line between said Towns. If not to Chuse Three Able Men of the Councel To Determin The Case; and our Comitie Shall Enter into Sufficient Bond In the behalf of our Town to Stand to the Determination of Those Gent<sup>l</sup> Men as above said; Provided Boxford Comitie will doe accordingly; and then the Town will Stand to what Comities doth Therein voted

the 24<sup>th</sup> of September 1703 Deac Thomas Dorman Elisha Perkins Corp<sup>n</sup> Jacob Town Isaac Estey and Samuel Stanley took y<sup>e</sup> oath of an Assesors for y<sup>e</sup> Town of Topsfield before me Samuel Stanley Town clerk for Topsfield

At a Lawfull Meeting of the Town of Topsfield y<sup>e</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> of october 1703 the Town agreed that the new Meeting House should be Seated after the maner as Ipswich new meeting House is seated leavening no room for Puese except Mr Capens Pue voted

the Town Granted Liberty to People of the Town to set up Stables for there Horses on the back Side of y<sup>e</sup> New Meeting House provided they set them as near the Swamp as they can voted

the Town agreed that the Surveyers Should Cut Timber on the Common to mend Bridges with all 1703 voted



At a Lawfull Meeting of the Town of Topsfield the 5<sup>th</sup> of November 1703, the Town agreed and Chose Deac<sup>n</sup> Samuel Howlet and Lieu<sup>t</sup> Thomas Baker and Lieu<sup>t</sup> Tobijah Perkins; and Sarg<sup>nt</sup> Daniel Redington; and Corp<sup>n</sup> Joseph Town to be a Commitie to Seat people in the New Meeting House  
voted

the Town agreed that M<sup>r</sup> Tillton should take down the Pulpit  
voted

the Town agreed that M<sup>r</sup> Tillton should have 7 or 8 of the pla[n]ck of ye wimens seats in the olde meeting House for his charge of taking down the Pulpit excepting proprieties  
voted

the Town agreed that the former return of laying out y<sup>e</sup> highway from the Bridg ouer the River up in to the Town; Should be Recorded in y<sup>e</sup> Town Book  
voted

the Town agreed that y<sup>e</sup> Selectmen Should Join with Lieu<sup>t</sup> Ephraim Dorman to draw up apetition to send to the General court: that a Surveyor may be sent to veiw the Lands in contryversy between Boxford and Topsfield  
voted

The Town agreed to Adjorn the Meeting down to the New Meeting House  
voted

The Town agreed to pass acts then in the new meeting House  
voted

The Town agreed that the vacant room on both Sides of y<sup>e</sup> Pulpit should be for Puese reserving the Right of y<sup>e</sup> Room to the Town  
voted

the Town agreed; that M<sup>r</sup> Baker should have Liberty to set up a Pue behinde Mrs Capens Pue the Town reserving their Right in y<sup>e</sup> room  
voted

the Town agreed that M<sup>r</sup> Brodstreet and Lieu<sup>t</sup> Perkins and M<sup>r</sup> Isaac Peabody Should have Liberty to Set up three Puese on the west Side of the Pulpit; the Town reserving their Right in the Room  
voted

at a lawfull Town meeting 3 of December 1703 the Town





granted Liberty for Pues to be set up at each end of the  
pu[1]pit voted

[118] The Town granted Liberty to Mr Baker to set  
up a Pue behinde Mr<sup>s</sup> capens Pue for his wife and familie  
the Town reserving their Right in the room voted

the Town Granted Liberty to M<sup>r</sup> Brodstreet to set up a  
Pue at the west end of the Pulpit and himself to sit with his  
wife in the Pue; and the Town Reserving their Right in the  
Room voted

[118] the Town Granted Liberty to Lieu<sup>t</sup> Perkins to set  
up a Pue next M<sup>rs</sup> Brodstreets Pue and himself to sit with  
his wife in the Pue: and the Town reserving their Right In the  
Room voted

At a Lawfull Town meeting 28 of December 1703 the  
Comitie chosen to seat People in the New meeting House  
made their return of seating People: and the Town did not  
accept of it

Instructions for the Comitie to Seat People by agreed up-  
on by the Town; first men from Sixty years & upwards to  
be Respected for their age before money in younger men  
the meeting House Rate that was made in y<sup>e</sup> year 1702 and  
the Country Rate that was made in y<sup>e</sup> year 1703 to be the  
Rul<sup>e</sup> to seat the rest of the People by

the Town agreed that the Instructions aboue written should  
be the Instructions for the Commitie to seat People by voted

the Town agreed and Chose Sarg<sup>t</sup> John Gould and Corp<sup>l</sup>  
Jacob Town & Ebenezer Averell to be a Commitie to Joyn  
with the former Commitie in Seating people voted

at a Lawfull Towne meeting ye 7 of march 170<sup>4</sup> of ye In-  
habitanc of Topsfield it being theire Generall Town meeting  
Sargant Standly was Chosen Towne Clarke for y<sup>e</sup> yeare in-  
sueing voted

Sarg<sup>t</sup> John Gould, Thomas Perley, John Cumings, Eben-  
ezer Averell and Samuel Stanley are Chosen Selectmen for  
the year Insueing voted



Thomas Howlet is Chosen Constable for the year Insuing  
voted

John Curtis, John Prichit, sarg<sup>t</sup> John Averell and John Dwaniel are Chosen Surveyers of high wayes for the year Insuing  
voted

Benjemen Bixby sen<sup>r</sup> and William Smith are chosen fence viewers for the year Insuing  
voted

Thomas Perkins sen<sup>r</sup> and Corp<sup>l</sup> John Curtis and William Town are Chosen Titheing men for the year Insuing  
voted

Ephraim and, Thomas Dwaniel are Chosen Hawards or field driuers for y<sup>e</sup> year Insueing  
voted

Sarj<sup>t</sup> John Havey is Chosen to serve on y<sup>e</sup> Jury of trials for march Court  
voted

Sarj<sup>t</sup> Daniel Redington is Chosen to serve on y<sup>e</sup> Jury-Grand at Ipswich Court next  
voted

The Town Granted to Daniel Waters the Parsonige House: the Town confirmed their former Instructions for Seating People  
voted

the Town agreed that there should be away lay'd out from y<sup>e</sup> Meeting-House to M<sup>r</sup> Capens Casway  
voted

L<sup>t</sup> Thomas Bakers, Ensine Jacob Town and m<sup>r</sup> Isaac Peabody are Chosen to renew and Settel Bounds with m<sup>r</sup> Zorobabel Endicott on the South Side of y<sup>e</sup> River between our Town Common and Endcotts medow and between y<sup>e</sup> Cow Common and the Lots  
voted

the Town agreed that those which have Cut Trees contrary to the Town order should be fined according to y<sup>e</sup> Town order  
voted

the Town agreed y<sup>t</sup> those that have broke y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Town order in Cuting Trees contrary there to shall be prosecuted by the Selectmen according to Law  
voted

the Town agreed that y<sup>e</sup> Selectmen should make orders for ringing of Hogs and restraining of Rames  
voted





the Town agreed that the Town order or By Law: Shall Still Stand in force for y<sup>e</sup> prohibition of cutting down any Trees upon our Town Common until furdur order voted

[119] The Town agreed to defend the Constables in all their Legal Actions with M<sup>r</sup> Zorobabel Endicott and John Keney for y<sup>e</sup> recovery of their Rates to y<sup>e</sup> Town voted

the Town agreed that y<sup>e</sup> Select-men should send to our Neighbors of Boxford concerning what they are behinde in their Rates with M<sup>r</sup> Capen voted

the Town agreed y<sup>t</sup> all y<sup>t</sup> have Peticuler Rights; as to Seats in y<sup>e</sup> old Meeting House shall have liberty to take them away voted

The Town agreed to sell y<sup>e</sup> olde Meeting-House to Sarg<sup>t</sup> John Gould for five Pounds in money voted

The Town agreed that y<sup>e</sup> Select-men should lay out y<sup>e</sup> High-way from the Meeting House to y<sup>e</sup> Town Bridge over y<sup>e</sup> River: and so to Salem Line voted

The Town officers sworne for y<sup>e</sup> year Insuing to the faithfull Discharg of their Respective offices by Samuel Stanley Town Clerke for Topsfield the 14<sup>th</sup> of March 170<sup>3</sup><sub>4</sub>

Samuel Stanley being Chosen Town Clerke for y<sup>e</sup> year Insuing was sworn to faithfull discharg of that office before the Select-men of Topsfield March 20<sup>th</sup> 170<sup>3</sup><sub>4</sub>

March 20<sup>th</sup> the Select-men for y<sup>e</sup> year Insuing was Sworn to the faithfull discharge of their places before me Samuel Stanley Town Clerk for Topsfield

At a Lawfull Meeting of y<sup>e</sup> Select-men March 20<sup>th</sup> 170<sup>3</sup><sub>4</sub> Then appointed Cap<sup>t</sup> John How and Samuel Stanley to Renew y<sup>e</sup> Bounds between y<sup>e</sup> Land of Zacheus Perkins and y<sup>e</sup> Town Common Copia vera attests Samuel Stanley Town Clerk

We whose Names are underwriton being appointed by y<sup>e</sup> Select-men to Perambulate and Renew the Bounds between y<sup>e</sup> Land of Zacheus Perkins and y<sup>e</sup> Town Common: and



accordingly we have renewed y<sup>e</sup> Bounds as we finde them Recorded in our Town Book: only y<sup>e</sup> Bounds near to Berzillah Barkers Cornner Seemes to be demolisht but y<sup>e</sup> Tree that was marked there we finde lying upon y<sup>e</sup> fence as we think

John How

Dated 21 March 170<sup>3</sup>

Samuel Stanley

Copia vera attests Samuel Stanley Topsfield Town Clerke.

Boston November 18<sup>th</sup> 1701 Received of Mr Ebenezer Averell Constable of Topsfield Two Pounds in full of a warrant for Forty Six Pounds Sixteen Shillings Received for Mr James Taylor Treasurar per Jeremiah Allene

Copia vera attests Samuel Stanley Town Clerk for Topsfield

At a Lawfull Meeting of y<sup>e</sup> Town of Topsfield y<sup>e</sup> Twelveth Day of May 1704 Cap<sup>t</sup> John How is chosen to serve on ye Grand-Jury at Ipswich Court next, and Sarg<sup>t</sup> Samuel Howlett and clarke Elisha Perkins are chosen to serve on the Jury of Trials

voted

Sarg<sup>t</sup> John Hovey is chosen to Represent y<sup>e</sup> Town at y<sup>e</sup> General Court to be kept at Boston for this year Insuing

voted

the Town agreed that y<sup>e</sup> Selectmen should lay out a highway through the Land of Zacheus Perkins to M<sup>r</sup> Capens Causway

voted

At a Lawfull meeting y<sup>e</sup> (4<sup>th</sup>) of 5<sup>th</sup> month; 1656 it is herby ordered and Granted that there shall be a way of foure Rod wide from the forde nigh to the House of William Towne: Through the Lands of the s<sup>d</sup> William Towns, William Howard, Jacob Town, Edmund Towne and George Buncker as it is layd out by Francis Pebody, John Redington, Edmun Town, and William Howard: at the Request of the sd. Town

voted

Received of Ebenezer Averell of Topsfield former Constable y<sup>e</sup> Sum of Eight Pounds six shillings & six pence: for y<sup>e</sup> year 1701 upon y<sup>e</sup> account of y<sup>e</sup> County of Essex there being so much Comitted to him to Colect: by y<sup>e</sup> Select-men





of Topsfield for said County. Ipswich June y<sup>e</sup> 7<sup>th</sup> 1704:  
per me John Apleton County Tresurer

Copia vera attest Samuel Stanley Towne Clerke for Tops-  
field

[120] At a Leagal Meeting of y<sup>e</sup> Town of Topsfield y<sup>e</sup> 9<sup>th</sup>  
of June 1704 Sarg<sup>t</sup> Daniel Redington is Chosen Represent-  
itive for y<sup>e</sup> year Insuing voted

At a Lawfull Meeting of y<sup>e</sup> Town of Topsfield y<sup>e</sup> 16<sup>th</sup> of  
June 1704 the Town then agreed and did chuse Lieve<sup>t</sup> Eph-  
raim Dorman Deac Samuel Howlett, Cle<sup>r</sup> Elisha Perkins,  
Ephraim Willd and Nathaniel Averell to be a commitie to  
Joine with a commitie of Boxford, to Settle a Divisional Line  
between Boxford and Topsfield; and our Town have given  
our commitie full Power to Joine with Boxford commitie:  
and to settle a Divisional Line between y<sup>e</sup> Said Towns; If y<sup>e</sup>  
said commities Therein can agree voted

Wee whose Names are under writen being appointed by  
y<sup>e</sup> Selectmen to lay out a high-way from y<sup>e</sup> Meeting-House  
upon y<sup>e</sup> common and through the Land of Zacheus Perkins  
to M<sup>r</sup> Capens Causwey; which accordingly wee have done;  
and lay'd out said way where y<sup>e</sup> olde way before went to y<sup>e</sup>  
west end of M<sup>r</sup> Capen causey

Samuel Standley  
John Gould

Dat 26 of June 1704

Copia vera attests Sam<sup>ll</sup> Stanley clerke

At a Lawfull Meeting of y<sup>e</sup> Town of Topsfield 22 Septem-  
ber 1704 Cap<sup>t</sup> John How and Benjemen Estey are Chosen  
to Serve on y<sup>e</sup> Jury of Trials at Newbery Court to be holden  
on y<sup>e</sup> last TuesDay of this Inst<sup>t</sup> Sept<sup>r</sup> voted

the Town agreed to leave y<sup>e</sup> mater concerning M<sup>r</sup> Page to  
y<sup>e</sup> Selectmen voted

the Town agreed that the Stone wall which is about y<sup>e</sup> old  
Meeting-House shall not be medled with without leave from  
y<sup>e</sup> Town voted



Boston Desember 2<sup>d</sup> 1704 Received of M<sup>r</sup> Phillip Knight Constable of Topsfield Thirty Seven Pounds Twelve Shillings; in part; Received for M<sup>r</sup> James Taylor Treas.

per me Jer Allene

Boston Aprill 18<sup>th</sup> 1704 Received of M<sup>r</sup> Phillip Knight Constable of Topsfield forty Nine Pounds Seventeene Shillings & Six pence in part: Received for M<sup>r</sup> James Taylor Treasurer

per Jer Allene

Boston July 3; 1704 Received of M<sup>r</sup> Phillip Knight Constable of Topsfield fifty-one Pounds Ten Shillings in part Rec<sup>d</sup> for my father James Taylor Treasurer

per James Taylor

Boston September 5<sup>th</sup> 1704 Received of Phillip Knight Constable of Topsfield Twenty four Pounds three Shillings & 4 pence in pt Received for my father James Taylor Treas<sup>r</sup>

per James Taylor

Boston November 13<sup>th</sup> 1704 Received of Phillip Knight Constable of Topsfield Sixteen Pounds Seventeen Shillings & two pence in full Received for M<sup>r</sup> James Taylor Treasurer.

per Jer Allene

Ipswich Feb 3<sup>d</sup> 170<sup>3</sup> Received of Phillip Knight Constable of Tops<sup>d</sup> the sum of six: Pounds ffourteen Shillings &: Six pence which is in full of ye sum he was to pay for y<sup>e</sup> Country Essex

per John Appleton County Tres<sup>r</sup>

The Six Copyes last above entred are true Copyes as attests Samuel Stanley Recorder for Topsfield

[121] At a Lawfull Meeting of y<sup>e</sup> Town of Topsfield y<sup>e</sup> 8<sup>th</sup> of Decem<sup>r</sup> 1704 the Town agreed to allow Constable Knight one Pound Sixteen Shillings and two pence his Country Rate being so much too short

voted

the Town agreed and Chose Cap<sup>t</sup> John Gould and Deac: Samuel Howlett to be a Committee, and gave them full Power to act and vse the best methods they can for the recovering





of the Arcars of M<sup>r</sup> Capens Rates Due to him from Boxford  
voted

the Town Granted liberty to Joseph Andrew to get the  
Pue finished which is in y<sup>e</sup> North west Corner of our Meet-  
ing House and he paying for ye making of s<sup>d</sup> Pue; hath  
liberty to Improve it so long as he is a Constant hearer of  
y<sup>e</sup> word of God with us, and doth yearly pay to M<sup>r</sup> Capens  
Sallery pay Ten Shillings as hath promise<sup>d</sup> and that when  
ever y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Andrew doth leave our Town, the said Pue is to  
remain to be disposed of by the Town  
voted

The Town agreed to allow Elisha Perkins twent[y] one  
Shillings for Sweeping the Meeting House from the time he  
first began to sweep y<sup>e</sup> new Meeting House, unto next March  
Meeting  
voted

Whereas his Excelency our present Governer hath ordered  
M<sup>r</sup> Page to our Town and hath by his perticuler order to  
the selectmen; ordered them to finde him a House and Land  
to Improve at a Reasonable Rent; Pursuant hereunto wee  
the Selectmen of Topsfield have lay'd out unto M<sup>r</sup>. Page Ten  
Acres of Land or there abouts; out of that Land lying  
Joyning to Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Perkinses Lot; on the South side of Ips-  
wich River: Bounded with an Assh Tree standing near the  
Clay Pits: and so Cross that Land to an Heap of Stones  
in or near Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Perkinsis Line. The conditions with M<sup>r</sup>.  
Page are as followeth: If the Town will be pleased to Ex-  
change Land with Zacheus Perkins: viz: that Land above  
saiaid: for that Land of his that lyeth to M<sup>r</sup>. Capens Causey  
and Joyning to the Common: Acre for Acre; or as out  
Townsmen; Shall Judge; to be chosen by the Town and  
Zacheus Perkins: Respecting Quallity; Then Zacheus Per-  
kins doth by These Presents—Binde himselfe to clear the  
Town from the above said order: by finding him a place to  
live in; as the Governer hath ordered. or Elce wee the Se-  
lectmen of Topsfield Do Binde our-Selves In behalf of the  
Town: to Pay to M<sup>r</sup>. Page, so much as he Shall Expend in  
Building and ffencing (not exceeding five Pounds) upon  
that Land: If the Town will not Exchang the Land above



said; or if he should be called away by Authority or otherwise Dat<sup>d</sup>. y<sup>e</sup> 19<sup>th</sup> of Decem<sup>r</sup>. 1704

his

Zacheus *W* Perkins

mark

Samuel Stanley

John Gould

Thomas Perley

John Cummings

Ebenezer Averell

### Select Men of Topsfield

Copia vera as Attests Samuel Stanley Town Clerke for Topsfield

We whose Names are underwritten being Chosen by y<sup>e</sup> Town to settle the Bounds between y<sup>e</sup> Town Common and the Lots have settled the Bounds between Corp<sup>l</sup> John Curtis and the Common: We have agreed as followeth; that the Bounds Shall run from a Black oake Tree which is Reputed to be the Bounds of our Common, upon a straight Line to a Black oake marked, with a heap of Stones at it: and on a strait Line to M<sup>r</sup> Endicotts Line.

Dated 22<sup>d</sup> of March 1704

Thomas Baker

Jacob Town

Isaac Peabody

Copia vera as Attests Samuel Stanley

Town Clerk for Tops

At a Lawfull Meeting of y<sup>e</sup> Town of Topsfield: 29 Decem<sup>r</sup> 1704 the Town allowed five Pounds towards paying for y<sup>e</sup> Watch-House to be Pay'd in money, or Corn as it passeth for money from man to man in y<sup>e</sup> Town voted

the Town agreed that y<sup>e</sup> Selectmen should call y<sup>e</sup> Constables to account that are behind with Mr Capens Rates here in y<sup>e</sup> Town: and Town Rates allso to see that they gather up these Rates & Clear with M<sup>r</sup> Capen, and with the Town both voted





the Town agreed ether to Pay M<sup>r</sup> Page what he doth Expend in building & ffencing, not Exceeding five Pounds upon the Land which the Selectmen have lay'd out to him; or to Exchang the Said Land with Zechus Perkins voted

the Town agreed that Sargent John Gould Should have the Glass which did belong to the old meeting House voted

This may certifie whome it may concern that I received of corp<sup>n</sup> Curtis, what he was ordered to pay to me when he was Constable as was Due to me from ye Town, I say received by me Ephraim Dorman: Dated 21 feb: 170<sup>4</sup>

This may certifie whom it may concern that in y<sup>e</sup> yeare 1699 Corp<sup>n</sup> John Courtis Payd to me that Money which was ordered to me by the Selectmen for what the Town was Indebted to me: Received by me Tobijah Perkins

This may certifie whom it may concern that I have Received sixteen pence of Constable Courtis; which was Due in a Town Rate to me, which he was to gather; Received by me John How

Received of Corp<sup>n</sup> Curtis when he was Constable all that he was ordered to pay to me out of the Town Rate committed to him to gather up: I say Received by me Elisha Perkins; Dat. ffeb 21: 170<sup>4</sup>

[122] Received of Corp<sup>n</sup> John Courtis Constable for Topsfield for ye Year 1699 the full of the Minesters Rate for said Town committed to him to colect: I say Received of him in full for s<sup>d</sup> Rate by me Joseph Capen Dated: ffeb; 13<sup>th</sup> 170<sup>4</sup>

The five Receipts here last entered: are enterd true copyes as attests Samuel Stanley Town Clerk for Topsfield

Received of Ephraim Willds as Constable for topsfield for y<sup>e</sup> year 1692 the full of y<sup>e</sup> Rate for y<sup>e</sup> Ministry for said Town and year. I say received the full per me Joseph Capen: ffeb: 27: 170<sup>4</sup>

Received of John Commings Constable for Topsfield for y<sup>e</sup> yeare 1700 the full of the Rate for the use of the Ministry



for said Town and year. I say received in full  
per me Joseph Capen: feeb 27: 1704

Compared & entred per me Samuel Stanley Town Clerke

At a Lawfull meeting of y<sup>e</sup> Towne of Topsfield it being  
there Generall Towne meeting apon y<sup>e</sup> 6: day of march  
1704 Sarg<sup>t</sup> Samuel Standly was Chosen Towne Clarke for y<sup>e</sup>  
year insueing. voted

Sarg<sup>t</sup> John Gould and Corp<sup>l</sup> Jacob Town are Chosen  
Constables for the year Insuing for Topsfield voted

Ebenezer Averell, Thomas Perley, Sargt Daniel Reding-  
ton: Clerke Elisha Perkins; and Corp<sup>l</sup> Joseph Town, are  
Chosen Selectmen for the year Insuing voted

Thomas Dwaniell, Ephraim Willd, William Hobs, and Jo-  
seph Gould are Chosen Surveyers of highwayes for the year  
Insuing voted

Sarg<sup>t</sup> John Hovey, Isaac Estey and Thomas Perkins are  
Chosen Tithing men for the year Insuing voted

Zacheus Gould and John ffrench Jun<sup>r</sup> are Chosen ffence  
viewers for the Year Insuing voted

John Town and Michill Dwaniell Jun<sup>r</sup> are Chosen Hawards  
for y<sup>e</sup> year Insuing voted

Nathaniel Wood and Stebbens Commings are chosen to  
see that People do yoke and Ring their Hogs voted

L<sup>t</sup> Ephraim Dorman is Chosen Grand-Jury-man for y<sup>e</sup>  
year Insuing voted

Joseph Borman and Thomas Dorman are Chosen to Serve  
on the Jury-of Trialls at Ipswich Court to be holden on y<sup>e</sup>  
last Tues-Day of this Instant voted

The Town Granted Liberty to Abraham Howard Jacob  
ffoster and Daniel ffoster and Caleb ffoster to set up a Stable  
to Shellter their Horses in upon our Common near our meet-  
ing House voted





the Town agreed that the order or By Law which was considered and allowed at a General Sessions of y<sup>e</sup> Peace holden at Ipswich March 30<sup>th</sup> 1703 concerning y<sup>e</sup> Prohibition of falling wood or timber on our Town Common Shall Still Continue till the Town See Cause to Repeal it voted

the Town Granted to those that are Seated in y<sup>e</sup> ffront Gallery; Liberty to raise y<sup>e</sup> ffront of that Seat according to their mindes voted

The 9<sup>th</sup> of march, 1704 The Town Officers chosen for the Year Insuing were Sworn to the faithfull discharge of their Respective Offices by the Selectmen

The 9<sup>th</sup> of March 1704 Samuel Stanley being chosen Town Clerke for the Year Insuing was Sworn to y<sup>e</sup> faithful discharge of that Office by the Selectmen and y<sup>e</sup> Select Men wear sworn as Assessors to y<sup>e</sup> faithfull discharge of their officies by y<sup>e</sup> Town Clerke: as attes[t] Sam<sup>l</sup> Stanley Clerk

At a Lawfull Meeting of y<sup>e</sup> Town of Topsfield, May 8<sup>th</sup>: 1705 Elisha Perkins was Chosen Representative to Represent the Town at y<sup>e</sup> Great and General Court or Assemble for the year Insuing voted

[123] Sam<sup>l</sup> Stanley is Chosen to Serve on y<sup>e</sup> Grand Jury at y<sup>e</sup> Superiour Court to be held at Ipswich the fiftenth of May Instant voted

Lieut Thomas Baker and M<sup>r</sup> Isaac Peabody are Chosen to Serve on the Jury of Trials att the same court voted

The Town agreed to give the Select-men full Power to Call the Constables to an account for not gathering y<sup>e</sup> Arears of the Meeting House Rates and y<sup>e</sup> said Select-men are appointed to receive the Said Arears for the use of the Town, viz: the use which y<sup>e</sup> said Rates wear made for, and to be delivered to the Committee that Pay'd M<sup>r</sup> Tillton: viz: Leiut Baker Leiut Perkins and Sarj<sup>t</sup> Redington: and y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Select-men are Impowered to prosecute against the s<sup>d</sup> Constable, for not gathering and bringing in the s<sup>d</sup> arears; and The Town will beare them out in all their Lawfull proceedings voted



the Town forgave M<sup>r</sup> Capen for what wood he had cut upon y<sup>e</sup> Common contrary to the Town order voted

the Town agreed that y<sup>e</sup> Select-men should prosecut those that have cut down Wood and Timber upon y<sup>e</sup> Town Common contrary to y<sup>e</sup> Town order M<sup>r</sup> Capen excepted voted

the Town agreed y<sup>t</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Isaac Peabody should git so much Timber upon Wintrops Hills as is needful to mend his Bridge over his medow voted

At a Lawfull Meeting of y<sup>e</sup> Select-men of Wenham May y<sup>e</sup> 10<sup>th</sup>: 1705 William fairfield John Gott & Thomas Kimball are appointed with full Power to Perambulate y<sup>e</sup> Line & Renew y<sup>e</sup> Bounds, between Wenham and Topsfield: on the 24: Day of May Currant at Ten of y<sup>e</sup> Clock in y<sup>e</sup> forenoone and to meet at y<sup>e</sup> West End of Wenham Casweye if faire wether: but if fould wether; then ye next fair Day per order of y<sup>e</sup> Selectmen

Thomas ffiske Cler

May 24<sup>th</sup> 1705 We whose Names are under Writen being met to gather to Perambulate and renew y<sup>e</sup> Bounds, according to the orders of our Towns: and accordingly here Renewed the Heaps of Stones at ye West End of Wenham Causway and the rest of the Bounds as they Stand Entred in our Town Reccords to the River, as Witness our Hands

Thomas Kimball

William ffairfield

At a Lawfull Meeting of y<sup>e</sup> Town of Topsfield y<sup>e</sup> 27<sup>th</sup>: of July: 1705 the Town doth by vote declare that they order M<sup>r</sup> Page to go on in his work: on that Ten Acres of Land which the Selectmen lay'd out to him on y<sup>e</sup> South Side of the River in the year 1704 the Clay Ground there in reserved by the Town: and a way to come at said Clay: and the Town doth Ingage to Satisfie M<sup>r</sup> Page for what he shall Expend in order to his Settlement on said Land. If the Town do not See good to Exchange the said Land with Zacheus Perkins, at the General Town Meeting next March Insuing voted





Sarg<sup>t</sup> John Gould is Chosen to Cary a Petition to his Excellency the Governer for y<sup>e</sup> Relcasment of three souldirs  
voted

At a Lawfull Meeting of y<sup>e</sup> Inhabitants of Topsfield Septem<sup>r</sup>: 21: 1705 Thomas Dorman Jun<sup>r</sup> is chosen to serve on y<sup>e</sup> Jury of trialls at Newbury Court next Insuing  
voted

Boston Septem<sup>r</sup> 26<sup>th</sup> 1705 Rec<sup>d</sup> of M<sup>r</sup> Thomas Howlett Constable of Topsfield fifteen Pounds one Shilling & pence in full Rec<sup>d</sup> for M<sup>r</sup> James Taylor Tresu<sup>r</sup>

per Jer Allen

Att a Lawfull meeting of y<sup>e</sup> Town of Topsfield Novem<sup>r</sup> 21 1705 in answer to Boxford Selectmens notification to our selectmen for Perambulation on the Bounds between our Towns the Town though it not proper to Perambulate where never Bounds were yet settled  
voted

The Town agreed to allow M<sup>r</sup> Capen; one Pound & 6 shillings for varnishing the Pulpit  
voted

[124] Rec<sup>d</sup> of John Gould Constable for y<sup>e</sup> Town of Topsfield the Sum of Three Pounds Eight Shillings & 4: pence it being in full for y<sup>e</sup> County of Essex: for y<sup>e</sup> last Assessment;

per John Apleton County Treasurer

Ipswich Decem<sup>r</sup> 14<sup>th</sup>: 1705

Copia vera as attests Samuell Stanley Town Clerk Top<sup>d</sup>

Boston Nouem<sup>r</sup> 29 1705 Rec<sup>d</sup> of M<sup>r</sup> John Gould Constable of Topsfield by y<sup>e</sup> Hands of M<sup>r</sup> Thomas Howlett Thirty Two Pounds Eight Shillings & four pence in part rec<sup>d</sup> for James Taylor Treasurer:

per Jer Allene

Topia vera attests Sam<sup>ll</sup> Stanley Town Clerke for Topsfield

Boston Janu<sup>r</sup> 23<sup>d</sup> 1705 Rec<sup>d</sup> of M<sup>r</sup> John Gould Consta. of Topsfield Thirty six pounds Eighteen Shillings in part rec<sup>d</sup> for M<sup>r</sup> James Taylor Treas<sup>r</sup>

per Jer Allene

Copia vera as Attests Sam<sup>ll</sup> Stanley



Boston June 20<sup>th</sup> 1706 Recd. of M<sup>r</sup> John Gould Consta. of  
Topsfield Twenty one Pounds five shillings & nine pence in  
part rec<sup>d</sup> for M<sup>r</sup> James Taylor Treas<sup>r</sup>

per Jer Allene

Boston Septem<sup>r</sup> 19<sup>th</sup> 1706 Rec<sup>d</sup> of m<sup>r</sup> John Gould Consta.  
of Topsfield Twenty one Pounds Thirteen shillings in part  
rec<sup>d</sup> for m<sup>r</sup> James Taylor Tresur<sup>r</sup>

per Jer Allene

Boston Janna. 9<sup>th</sup> 1706-7 Rec<sup>d</sup> of m<sup>r</sup> John Gould Constable  
of Topsfield Twenty Pounds fouer shillings & Eleven  
pence rec<sup>d</sup> in full for m<sup>r</sup> James Taylor Treas<sup>r</sup>

per Jer Allene

The Copyes above Entred are true Copyes as Attests Samuel  
Stanley Town Clerke for Topsfield

Rec<sup>d</sup> of Ebenezer Averell Constable of Topsfield the Just  
Sum of Ninty Seven Pounds fourteen Shillings on the ac-  
count of ye first Payment of y<sup>e</sup> meeting-House Rate: I say  
Received by me Abraham Tilton Dat<sup>d</sup> march y<sup>e</sup> 21 1704.

Copia vera Attests Sam<sup>l</sup> Stanley Town Clerke for Tops-  
field

Rec<sup>d</sup> of Nathaniell Averell Constable of Topsfield Seventy  
Nine Pounds in money on the account of y<sup>e</sup> Second Pay-  
ment of ye meeting House Rate I say received by me Abra-  
ham Tilton: Dated march y<sup>e</sup> 21<sup>st</sup> 1704

Copia vera attests Sam<sup>l</sup> Stanley Town Clerke for Tops-  
field

Rec<sup>d</sup> of Const<sup>ble</sup> Nathaniel Averell of Topsfield upon y<sup>e</sup>  
account of y<sup>e</sup> meeting House Rate which was committed to  
him to gather; the Just sum of 21 Pounds in Silver money  
at y<sup>e</sup> Seventeen peny weight: I say received by me Tobijah  
Perkins in behalf of the commitie; Dated y<sup>e</sup> 29<sup>th</sup> April 1706

Copia vera Attests Samuel Stanley Town Clerk for Tops<sup>d</sup>

At a Lawfull Towne meeting y<sup>e</sup> fift. Day of march 170<sup>5</sup>  
Lieut. Ephraim Dorman is Chosen moderator for the Day  
voted





At a lawfull Town meeting ye 5<sup>th</sup> of march 170<sup>8</sup> Sarg<sup>t</sup> Samuell Standly is Chosen Town Clark for this yere ensw-  
ing voted

John Nicholls is chosen Constable for y<sup>e</sup> Town on y<sup>e</sup> South  
Side ye River voted

Thomas Perley is chosen Constable for y<sup>e</sup> Town on y<sup>e</sup>  
North Side y<sup>e</sup> River voted

Lieu<sup>t</sup> Ephraim Dorman, Sarj<sup>t</sup> Daniel Redington, Elisha  
Perkins, Sarg<sup>t</sup> Hovey and Corp<sup>l</sup> John Curtis are Chosen  
Selectmen for y<sup>e</sup> year Insuing voted

the Town agreed y<sup>t</sup> y<sup>e</sup> Selectmen shall draw up a List of  
all that are Quallified as ye Law directs for voting in choice  
of Town Officers between this and next march meeting  
voted

m<sup>r</sup> Timothy Perkins is chosen Grand-Jury man for y<sup>e</sup> year  
insuing voted

Ephraim Willds is chosen to serve on y<sup>e</sup> Jury of Trials  
next court to be held at Ipswich on y<sup>e</sup> last Tusday of this  
Ins<sup>t</sup> March voted

Isaac Burton, John ffrench Jun<sup>r</sup>; John Hovey Jun<sup>r</sup> John  
Cummings are Chosen Surveyers of high wayes for y<sup>e</sup> year  
Insuing voted

Benjamin Bixby, Isaac Estey and Nathaniel Averell are  
chosen Tithing-men for the year Insuing voted

[125] William Town and Zacheus Gould are chosen ffence  
viewer for y<sup>e</sup> year Insuing voted

The Town agreed y<sup>t</sup> y<sup>e</sup> Select-men shall Lay out a Way  
for Beverley men to fetch away their Hay in so as may be  
convenient for them; and the least prejudittiall to the Pro-  
prietors in Topsfield Bounds voted

The Town agreed that Beverley men shall have Rocks and  
gravill and old Timber as is all ready down taking it upon y<sup>e</sup>  
Common to make a Casway to bring out their Hay out of  
their medow near Thomas Towns medow voted



The Town agreed that Beverley men shall have Rocks to fence their meadow that is in our Town Bounds, taking y<sup>e</sup> Rocks upon our Town Common voted

The Town agreed y<sup>t</sup> y<sup>e</sup> Present Selectmen shall call all y<sup>e</sup> Constables to an account: that are behinde in any of all the Rates, that have bin comited to them to gather up voted

The Town Adjourned The present meeting unto the next Munday following voted

At a General meeting of y<sup>e</sup> Town of Topsfield begun and held the fift Day of march 170<sup>5</sup> and Adjourned unto y<sup>e</sup> next Munday following and then met, and agreed to chuse a commitie and to give them full power to Joyn with Boxford Commitie in Settling a Line between Topsfield and Boxford: and if they cannot agree; to make report to the Town voted

Lieu<sup>t</sup> Ephraim Dorman, m<sup>r</sup> Isaac Peabody, Lieu<sup>t</sup> Tobijah Perkins are chosen a committee and have full power to Joyn with a Commitie of Boxford to settle a Divisional Line between Topsfield and Boxford: if they can agree: but if they cannot agree to make report to the the Town voted

The Town agreed to exchange y<sup>e</sup> ten acres of Land or there abouts as y<sup>e</sup> Selectmen lay<sup>d</sup> out to m<sup>r</sup> Page: with Zacheus Perkins; for so much Land (as may be Judg'd by Indifferent men Chosen by the Town and Zacheus Perkins) Joyning to the Town Common and to m<sup>r</sup> Capens Causey; also the s<sup>d</sup> Zacheus Perkins doth Binde over the aforesaid Ten acres of Land or there abouts lying near Lieu<sup>t</sup> Perkinses Lot to the Town or Proprietors for Secuerity and Indamnifieing of them in the Possession of that Land which they do exchange for; Lying by m<sup>r</sup> Capens Causey and Joyning to the Town Common voted

Cap<sup>t</sup> John Gould Lieu<sup>t</sup> Baker Lieu<sup>t</sup> Perkins and Ephraim Willds Entred ther contrary Decent and John Robinson Entered his contrary Decent to the vote last above written





Thomas Dorman Jun<sup>r</sup> is chosen Constable for y<sup>e</sup> year Insuing for y<sup>e</sup> North of the River: for the Town of Topsfield  
voted

The Town agreed and gave Cap<sup>t</sup> John Gould and Deac<sup>n</sup> Samuel Howlett full Power to proceed according to Law for the recovery of the arears of m<sup>r</sup> Capens Rates due to him: from any of y<sup>e</sup> Inhabitants of Boxford  
voted

The Town agreed to exchange about an acre of Land with m<sup>r</sup> Timothy Perkins lying on y<sup>e</sup> South side of his field in the Swamp: for so much land as shall be Judg'd by Indifferent men to be Equevolent to it: laying it to the common  
voted

m<sup>r</sup> Isaac Peabody Deac<sup>n</sup> Sam<sup>l</sup> Howlett and Elisha Perkins are Chosen a Comitie to lay out the said Land for m<sup>r</sup> Timothy Perkins; and y<sup>e</sup> Town  
voted

the said Perkins Paying all the charge  
voted

Daniel Waters is chosen a surveyer of highwayes for y<sup>e</sup> year Insuing  
voted

The Town agreed to free all y<sup>e</sup> Inhabitants on y<sup>e</sup> Southwest Side of Nicholls Brook from highway worke on ye North East Side of said Brook for this year provided they Maintain the Bridge over s<sup>d</sup> Nichollses Brook: and the rest of the highwayes and Bridges on that side of y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Nichollses Brook  
voted

The Town agreed to ffence in y<sup>e</sup> Burying-Place with a Stone-Wall  
voted

The Town agreed that y<sup>e</sup> Selectmen lay out what Ground maybe Convenient for the Burying Place  
voted

The Town agreed to exchange about half an acre of Land with Michall Dwaniell for so much of his Land; as shall be equevolent thereto: and the same comitie chosen to lay out about an Acre of Land for m<sup>r</sup> Timothy Perkins & the Town upon Exchange are a like appointed to lay out the half Acre upon Exchang with sd. Michaell Dwaniell and the Town  
voted



The Town agreed y<sup>e</sup> Town order or By-law which was considered & allowed at a general sessions of ye peace March y<sup>e</sup> 30<sup>th</sup> 1703 holden at Ipswich, shall still continue; untill the Town see cause to Repeal it voted

John Hovey Jun<sup>r</sup> Isaac Peabody, Daniel Clarke, Daniel Waters, Joseph Town sen<sup>r</sup>; Deac. Thomas Dorman Thomas Dorman Jun<sup>r</sup> entered their contrary Desents

[126] Samuel Stanley being Chosen clerke for y<sup>e</sup> year Insuing was sworn to y<sup>e</sup> faithfull discharge of that office by y<sup>e</sup> Honr<sup>ble</sup>: Major Wainwright y<sup>e</sup> 8<sup>th</sup>: day of march 170<sup>5</sup>

Lieut. Ephraim Dorman Sarg<sup>t</sup> Daniel Redington Clerk Elisha Perkins sarj<sup>t</sup> John Hovey and Corp<sup>l</sup>. John Curtis being Selectmen for y<sup>e</sup> year Insuing were sworn as: assessors to y<sup>e</sup> faithfull discharge of y<sup>t</sup> office by me Sam<sup>l</sup> Stanley Town Clerke Isaac Burton, John french Jun<sup>r</sup>; John Hovey Jun<sup>r</sup>. and Daniel Waters being chosen Surveyers of high-ways for the year Insuing were sworn to y<sup>e</sup> faithfull discharge of that office by y<sup>e</sup> Selectmen

John Nicholls being chosen Constable for ye year Insuing was sworn to y<sup>e</sup> faithfull discharge of that office by the selectmen Thomas Dorman Jun<sup>r</sup> being chosen constable for ye year Insuing was sworn to ye faithfull discharge of that office by ye Selectmen the Eleaventh Day of Mar<sup>h</sup> 170<sup>5</sup> Benjemen Bixby & Nathaniel Averell being chosen Tithing-men for y<sup>e</sup> Year Insuing wear sworn to ye faithfull discharge of y<sup>t</sup> office by y<sup>e</sup> Selectmen Zacheus Gould being chosen ffence viewer for ye year Insuing was sworn to y<sup>e</sup> faithfull discharge of that office by y<sup>e</sup> selectmen the 8<sup>th</sup> Day of Mar<sup>h</sup> 170<sup>5</sup> John Cummings being Chosen Surveyer for ye year Insuing was Sworn to the faithfull Discharg of that office by the Selectmen on y<sup>e</sup>: 18; of March: 170<sup>5</sup> as attests Samuel Stanley Towne Clerke for Topsfield

At a Lawfull Meeting of ye Town of Topsfield y<sup>e</sup> 7<sup>th</sup> Day of May 1706 Elisha Perkins is Chosen Representative for the Town: for this year Insuing voted





Lieut Perkins Sarj Daniel Redington and Thomas Howlett are Chosen to Serve on the Jury of Tryals at y<sup>e</sup> Superiour Court to be held at Ipswich on y<sup>e</sup> 3<sup>d</sup> Tuesday of May Inst<sup>d</sup> and Deac<sup>n</sup> Samuel Howlett is chosen to serve on y<sup>e</sup> Grand jury at said Court voted

We whose Names are under written being appointed by the Town to stake out the Buring place accordingly have; and Bounded it begining at m<sup>r</sup> Perkins his Ston Wall at y<sup>e</sup> South-East Side of his place agoing into his field; Bounded with a Ston by his Wall Side; and from thence to a Great Ston lying near the West Gate of y<sup>e</sup> Old meeting-House flortt: and then to two Stons lying between the White Oak Tree and the Old flortt: and then to two Stons lying on the Plain: and then to a Stump at the South-East End of the Burying Place: and then to m<sup>r</sup> Perkinses fffence. Dated 19<sup>th</sup> of April 1706

Ephraim Dorman

John Hovey

John Curtis

Elisha Perkins

Daniel Redington

Selectmen of Topsfield

Copia vera as attests Sam<sup>l</sup> Stanley Town Clarke for Topsfield

Boston December 1694: Rec<sup>d</sup> of m<sup>r</sup> Isaac Estey Constable of Topsfield Six Pounds Three Shillings and Nine pence, in full of a Warrant Dated 13<sup>th</sup> Septem<sup>r</sup>; 1694 amounting to Twenty Two Pounds three Shillings and Nine pence I say Rec<sup>d</sup> for m<sup>r</sup> James Taylor Treasu<sup>r</sup>

per Jer: Allene

Boston April 30<sup>th</sup> 1695: Rec<sup>d</sup> of m<sup>r</sup> Isaac Estey Constable of Topsfield: by the hand of m<sup>r</sup> John Gould fifty Eight Pounds Eleven shillings & Three pence in full of a Warrant for fifty Eight pounds Eleven shillings & three pence I say rec<sup>d</sup> for m<sup>r</sup> James Taylor Treasu<sup>r</sup>

per Jer Allene

Wee whose Names are under written being Chosen by y<sup>e</sup>



Town of Salem & y<sup>e</sup> Town of Topsfield: to Perambulate & Renew the Line between Salem and Topsfield; Wee have accordingly met and in behalf of Each Town owned Renewed a Red Oak Tree with a Heap of Stones at it; commonly called crumwells Rock near y<sup>e</sup> River: from thence to a Heap of Stones between three White Oak Trees: by a great Assh Swamp; then to a Heap of Stones near Nichollses Brook; then to Dry Tree [127] marked With a Heap of Stones at it near the Head of Smiths meadow; then to a Crooked Black Oak Tree near Wheell Brook; and then to a White oak Tree with stones at it near Wenham Causey

Dat<sup>d</sup> 22<sup>d</sup> of April 1706

for Topsfield

Ephraim Dorman sen<sup>r</sup>

John Curtis

Elisha Perkins

for Salem

Edward Putnam

John Putnam Jun<sup>r</sup>

Daniel Andrews

Copia vera as attests Samuel Stanley Topsfield Town Clerke

We whose Names are under writen being Chosen by our respective Towns to Perambulate on y<sup>e</sup> Bounds between our Towns; Have accordingly met and owned & renewed the Bounds between Ipswich & Topsfield; begining at a Aple Tree in L<sup>t</sup> Thomas Perleys field with an Heap of Stones about it & so to a Black oak Tree marked with Stones about it; and from thence to a white Oak Tree marked with Stones about it upon an Hill some Rods from the Pond commonly called M<sup>r</sup> Bakers Pond; and then as y<sup>e</sup> Pond runs to a Marked Tree a white oak with an Heap of Stones about it; at y<sup>e</sup> South-East corner of y<sup>e</sup> said Pond next Daniel ffosters: and then by y<sup>e</sup> former marked Trees with Heaps of Stones about them till it comes to m<sup>r</sup> Symo[n]dses farm so-called: and then by said farm till it comes to a Stak by or near a Spring near M<sup>r</sup> Winthrops Corner in y<sup>e</sup> meadow; & from s<sup>d</sup> stake on a Straight Line about two Rods & on half off of Edward Nealands House to a stake with an Heap of Stones about it on the side of an Hill; called Pains Hill; and from s<sup>d</sup> Stake and Stones Westerly; to a stake and Heap of stones about it near the Brook that runns to Corp<sup>l</sup> Howletts House: and then as the s<sup>d</sup> Brook runns into Ipswich River





for Topsfield

John Hovey  
 Samuel Stanley  
 John Gould Jr

for Ipswich

Robert Lord  
 William Howlett  
 Nathaniel Hart  
 John Pengry

Dat<sup>d</sup> May 29<sup>th</sup> 1706 Copia vera Attests Samuel Stanley  
 Clerke for Topsfield

We whose Names are under writen being Chosen by y<sup>e</sup> Town to lay out to Mr Timothy Perkins about an Acre of Land lying on y<sup>e</sup> South Side of his Land commonly called y<sup>e</sup> meeting House Lot. Bounded as followeth on a Straight [line] from y<sup>e</sup> corner of his fence to a stake in y<sup>e</sup> side of y<sup>e</sup> Swamp by y<sup>e</sup> Hillside; the Breadth is Eight Rod; and from the Corner Stake upon a Straight line Northwest Thurtly five Rods: to a White Oak Stump Standing in his own ffence: and the above said M<sup>r</sup> Timothy Perkins hath lay'd down out of Zacheus Perkinses Land; and by his order; the Bounds as followeth: begining at y<sup>e</sup> North corner Bounded with two Popler Trees with a Stake between them: and from thence Southerly Six Rod to a Stake and Heap of Stones: and from thence South and by East to a Wallnut Tree the length of y<sup>e</sup> Line Sixty-three Rod.

Isaac Peabody  
 Elisha Perkins  
 Samuel Howlett

Dat<sup>d</sup> 28<sup>th</sup> March: 1706 Copia vera Attested by Sam<sup>ll</sup>  
 Stanley Town Clerke for Topsfield

Atta Lawfull Meeting of y<sup>e</sup> Town of Topsfield 16<sup>th</sup> of Septem<sup>r</sup> 1706 John Cummings is chosen to serve on y<sup>e</sup> Jury of Trials at Newbury court to be holden on ye last Tuesday of this Instant Sep<sup>r</sup> 1706 voted

At a Lawfull meeting of y<sup>e</sup> Town of Topsfield y<sup>e</sup> 22<sup>d</sup> Day of October, 1706 the Town agreed to Stand by our Town Constables in recovering of y<sup>e</sup> Rates of the Dwellers upon M<sup>r</sup> Endicotts farm voted

At a Lawfull meeting of ye Town of Topsfield y<sup>e</sup> 15<sup>th</sup> of Novem<sup>r</sup> 1706 the Town agreed to chuse a comitie to Draw



up a petition to send to the General Court to End the Differences between Topsfield and Boxford voted

Lieut. Thomas Baker; Capt. John Gould, Lieut Tobijah Perkins and Lieut Ephraim Dorman are chosen the committee to draw up the Petition afore<sup>sd</sup> voted

[128] At a Lawfull Meeting of the Town of Topsfield ye 25<sup>th</sup> of Novem<sup>r</sup> 1706 the Town agreed and chose abraham How of Ipswich to Joyn with a man as Zacheus Perkins shall chuse to Lay out the Land as the Town have agreed to Exchange with y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Zacheus Perkins and if those two Men cannot agree s<sup>d</sup> two men are to chuse a third man voted

The Town ag[r]eed & chose Daniel Clarke there agent to go to Salem Court to answer the writ Lay<sup>d</sup> upon the Selectmen by the committee viz: Lt: Thomas Baker; Lt. Tobijah Perkins & Daniel Redington voted

At a Lawfull Meeting of y<sup>e</sup> Town of Topsfield the Tenth Day of January 1706-7; Mr Isaac Peabody is chosen Moderator for the Meeting voted

The Town agreed to chuse a committee to discours ye committee concerned with y<sup>e</sup> Meeting House Rate and to make report to ye Town of what Termes they will agree upon voted

Lieut Ephraim Dorman Deac<sup>n</sup> Samuel Howlett, and Elisha Perkins are chosen to be the committee above said voted

The Town agreed that ye Selectmen shall prosecute the constables for not doing their Duty in gathering the Rates committed to them to gather voted

At a Lawfull Meeting of the Town of Topsfield 21<sup>st</sup> of Janu<sup>r</sup> 170<sup>6</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Isaac Peabody is chosen Moderator for that meeting voted

the Town agreed to allow the Meeting House committee viz—M<sup>r</sup> Thomas Baker Lieut Tobijah Perkins and Sarg<sup>t</sup> Daniel Redington Eleaven Pounds and Eight shillings & six pence which is in full of what they wear to have for building





the New Meeting House and Court Charges and the said Eleaven pounds Eight Shillings and six pence is to be Levvyed in a Rate to Defray Town charge voted

At a Lawfull and Generall meeting of y<sup>e</sup> Town of Topsfield on y<sup>e</sup> fourth Day of March 1706-7 Lieut Tobijah Perkins is chosen Moderator for ye Day voted

Samuel Stanley is chosen Town Clerke for y<sup>e</sup> year Insuing voted

Thomas Perley and Micheal Dwaniel are Chosen Constables for y<sup>e</sup> year Insuing voted

Deac: Samuel Howlett, Ebenezer Averill Thomas Howlett corp<sup>l</sup> Joseph Town and Samuel Stanley are chosen Select-men for y<sup>e</sup> year Insuing voted

John Hovey Jun<sup>r</sup> is chosen to serve on y<sup>e</sup> grand-Jury at Ipswich court next Insuing & for the year voted

John ffrench is Chosen to serve on y<sup>e</sup> Jury of trials at ye said court voted

Daniel Clarke, Nathaniel Borman and Thomas Town are chosen Surveyers of Highwayes for the year Insuing voted

Mr Thomas Baker Sarj<sup>t</sup> Daniel Redington & Thomas Gould & Isaac Estey are chosen tything-men for the year Insuing voted

Sarj<sup>t</sup> John Averel, Joseph Borman & Amos Dorman are Chosen ffence viewers for the year Insuing voted

The Town granted unto William Averell half an acre of Land some where where a commitie shall be ordered by y<sup>e</sup> Town to lay it out for him y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Averill Duering his and his Wifes life time: and y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> William Averell is hereby oblidge to Sweep ye Meeting-House and to dige Graves to be pay<sup>d</sup> for his work voted

The Meeting is Adjorned to y<sup>e</sup> Day following next voted

At a Lawfull General Town Meeting of y<sup>e</sup> Inhabitants of y<sup>e</sup> Town of Topsfield by adjorment from y<sup>e</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> of March



1706-7 to y<sup>e</sup> Day Instant then met and agreed y<sup>t</sup> William Averell shall have half an Acre of Land lay<sup>d</sup> out to him upon y<sup>e</sup> common some where near among the Hills to y<sup>e</sup> Norwest of y<sup>e</sup> Meeting-House where a committee chosen to lay it out shall [129] think convenient, for him the said Averell & his Wife duering their Life time voted

The Town agreed that Cap<sup>t</sup> John Gould & Sargt. John Hovey shall be y<sup>e</sup> committee to lay out the above mentioned Land for William Averell voted

the Town doth agree that William Averell shall have the benefit of y<sup>e</sup> frute of y<sup>e</sup> parsonage orchard till the Town have occasion for it and y<sup>e</sup> said Averell is not to ffence the said orchard voted

The Town agreed and chosen Samuel Stanley to be School Master for the Town for the year Insuing voted

The Town agreed to clame cap<sup>t</sup> Goulds farm of Three Hundred [acres] according to the true Bounds of it as it was lay<sup>d</sup> out by the lot layers as Township to Topsfield voted

and the Town agreed and Chose M<sup>r</sup> Isaac Peabody; William Town and Sarg<sup>t</sup> John Gould to be a committee to renew and Settle Bounds between the common and y<sup>e</sup> lots on both sides of the River voted

At a Lawfull Meeting of y<sup>e</sup> Selectmen Ensign Sam<sup>l</sup> Howlett and Sam<sup>l</sup> Stanley are chosen to lay out a way through the Land of Zacheus Perkins for Zacheus Gould and Eliezer Lake and Nathaniel Wood

At a Lawfull Meeting of the Selectmen on y<sup>e</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> & on y<sup>e</sup> fifth Day of March 1706-7 all the Town officers chosen for the year Insuing Except Baker were sworn to the faithfull discharg of Every one his Respective office by y<sup>e</sup> Selectmen and Town Clerke as Attests Sam<sup>l</sup> Stanley Town Clerke for Topsfield

We whose Names are under writen being appointed & Impowered by y<sup>e</sup> Selectmen to lay out a way through the land of Zacheus perkins accordingly we have don it; and have





lay'd out a way from y<sup>e</sup> lift in y<sup>e</sup> fence between Zach-  
 eus Perkinses land & Henry Lakes Land as y<sup>e</sup> path now  
 gose till it comes to s<sup>d</sup> Perkinses fence & then straight as y<sup>e</sup>  
 fence & stone wall gose to y<sup>e</sup> Brook and so straight over y<sup>e</sup>  
 Brook to y<sup>e</sup> lift where Zacheus Perkins goes out of his own  
 Land

Samuel Howlett  
 Samuel Stanley

Rec<sup>d</sup> of Isaac Estey as constable for Topsfield and to col-  
 lect of y<sup>e</sup> Inhabitants said Town: what was coming to me on  
 account of Rates for y<sup>e</sup> year 1694 I say Rec<sup>d</sup> or Excepted  
 as if actually received; the full of what was comited to him  
 to collect as aforesaid—per me Joseph Capen this 7<sup>th</sup> Day of  
 May or before 1706

January 10<sup>th</sup> 170<sup>6</sup>: I had then received of Ebenezer Aver-  
 ell as constable of Topsfield for y<sup>e</sup> year 1701 & appointed to  
 collect the Rates for y<sup>e</sup> ministry for said year I say received  
 then or before: the full of what was coming to me from  
 said Town & for y<sup>e</sup> year aforesaid—per me Joseph Capen

Whose Names are under written being chosen by y<sup>e</sup> Town  
 to lay out to Micheal Dwaniell about halfe an Acre of land  
 out of y<sup>e</sup> Town Common by way of Exchang accordingly we  
 have don it: Bounds are as followeth; the Bounds of y<sup>e</sup>  
 Land to Micheal Dwaniell from y<sup>e</sup> old ancient Bounds seven  
 Rods in breadth and Eleaven Rods and Six foot in length  
 with four stakes at each corner with Stones at them. the  
 Bounds of y<sup>e</sup> land which we had of Micheal Dwaniell are as  
 followeth from y<sup>e</sup> white oak Southward Seven Rods & three  
 foot to a stake by y<sup>e</sup> fence side: and Eastwardly Rods  
 Eleven; and Northerly Eleven Rods and an half to a stake  
 with stones about it; and westerly to a White Oak Tree Nine  
 Rods and an half

Dat<sup>d</sup> y<sup>e</sup> 28<sup>th</sup> of March 1706

Samuel Howlett  
 Elisha Perkins  
 Isaac Peabody

The three Copyes last above entred are true copyes as At-  
 tests Sam<sup>n</sup> Stanley Clerke for Topsfield



Boston Decem<sup>r</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> 1705 Rec<sup>d</sup> of M<sup>r</sup> Jacob Town Constable of Topsfield by y<sup>e</sup> hand of M<sup>r</sup> Elisha Perkins Twelve Pounds & Ten Shillings in part rec<sup>d</sup> for M<sup>r</sup> James Taylor Treas<sup>r</sup> per Jer Allene

Boston Janu'y 23 1705 Rec<sup>d</sup> of M<sup>r</sup> Jacob Town Constable of Topsfield by y<sup>e</sup> hand of M<sup>r</sup> John Gould six pounds sixteen shillings & six pence in part rec<sup>d</sup> for M<sup>r</sup> James Taylor Treas<sup>r</sup> per Jer Allene

The two last Copyes above Entred are true Copyes as Attests: Sam<sup>n</sup> Stanley Town Clerke for Topsfield

[130] Boston June 11<sup>th</sup> 1706 Rec<sup>d</sup> of M<sup>r</sup> Jacob Town Constable of Topsfield by y<sup>e</sup> hands of M<sup>r</sup> Elisha [Perkins] fourteen Pounds two shillings & nine part rec<sup>d</sup> for M<sup>r</sup> James Taylor Treas<sup>r</sup> per Jer Allene

Boston Decem<sup>r</sup> 3<sup>d</sup> 1706 Rec<sup>d</sup> of Mr Jacob Town Constable of Topsfield by y<sup>e</sup> hands of M<sup>r</sup> Joshua Town Seven Pounds Seven Shillings in part rec<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> James Taylor Treas<sup>r</sup> per Jer Allene

The two Copyes above entred are true Copyes as Attests Sam<sup>n</sup> Stanley Town Clerk Topsfield

At a Lawfull Meeting of y<sup>e</sup> Town of Topsfield 22 of April 1707 the Town agreed and chose M<sup>r</sup> Thomas Baker M<sup>r</sup> Isaac Peabody to go to y<sup>e</sup> Hon<sup>d</sup> General Court; to manage the Towns Petition for the settelling of our Town Bounds Between Topsfield & Boxford voted

Cap<sup>t</sup> John Gould is chosen to Joyn with y<sup>e</sup> above s<sup>d</sup> Baker & Peabody to manage the afores<sup>d</sup> Petition voted

Whereas y<sup>e</sup> selectmen did on y<sup>e</sup> fifth Day of March 1706 or 7: order a way to be lay<sup>d</sup> out through y<sup>e</sup> Land of Zacheus Perkins; which way was accordingly lay<sup>d</sup> out, but Zacheus Perkins being very obstinate in the matter; and y<sup>e</sup> Selectmen not willing to do that which would bring great Charge upon y<sup>e</sup> Town; Have lay<sup>d</sup> the above mentioned Way in another place; viz: where Zacheus Perk[i]ns was not only free that it should be; but did promise to make the causey





upon his own cost from the side of y<sup>e</sup> Brook to y<sup>e</sup> upland on y<sup>e</sup> West side of said Brook. The way is lay'd out as followeth; begining at y<sup>e</sup> Road where the Line runs between Zacheus Perkinses Land & John Robinsons Land: and their as the sd. Line doth run; have lay'd out the afore mentioned way upon Zacheus Perkinses Land till it comes up y<sup>e</sup> Hill about five or six Rods and then turns of to y<sup>e</sup> right as it is staked out to Zacheus Perkinses ffence: and when throu s<sup>d</sup> Perkinses ffence; doth turn of to y<sup>e</sup> right; upon y<sup>e</sup> Land of Widow Hannah Clarke and Henry Lake as it is staked out to y<sup>e</sup> way whic[h] comes down Billins-gate Hill from Henry Lakes to Zacheus Perkinses ffence

Dat<sup>d</sup> 22<sup>d</sup> Apri<sup>l</sup> 1707

Samuel Howlett  
Joseph Town Jun<sup>r</sup>  
Ebenezer Averell  
Thomas Howlett  
Sam<sup>l</sup> Stanley

Selectmen of Topsfield

Copia vera as attests Sam<sup>l</sup> Stanley Town Clerke for Topsfield.

At a Lawfull Meeting of the Town of Topsfield y<sup>e</sup> 9<sup>th</sup> Day of May 1707 M<sup>r</sup> Isaac Peabody is chosen Representitive for y<sup>e</sup> year Insuing voted

The Town have chosen Lieu<sup>t</sup> Thomas Baker & M<sup>r</sup> Isaac Peabod[y] to be Attorneys in behalfe of our Town; with full Power to manage our late Petition to y<sup>e</sup> Hon<sup>d</sup> General Court for a Rehearing of the case Depending between Boxford and Topsfield; and allso to desier and chuse an Attorney or Attorneys to assist them if they see cause and the Town will Bear their charge voted

At a Lawfull Meeting of y<sup>e</sup> Town of Topsfield on y<sup>e</sup> 19<sup>th</sup> of May 1707 Thomas Perkins & John Robinson are chosen to serve on y<sup>e</sup> Grand-Jury at y<sup>e</sup> Superiour Court to be held at Ipswich on May y<sup>e</sup> 20<sup>th</sup> Inst.<sup>t</sup> and Daniel Clarke; Timothy Perkins: and John Averill are Chosen to serve on y<sup>e</sup> Jury of tryals at y<sup>e</sup> Same Court voted

At a Lawfull Meeting of y<sup>e</sup> Town of Topsfield: 1: Day of



July 1707. The Town agreed & chose Cap<sup>t</sup> John How; L<sup>t</sup> Tobijah Perkins; Nathaniel Averel; Ebenezer Averell and Jacob Town to Joyn with our comitee allready chose to manage our Towns case with Boxford: before y<sup>e</sup> comitee Chosen by the Hon<sup>d</sup> General Court; to come to Topsfield and Boxford: to take a view of the Lines between the said Towns voted

[131] The Town agreed that Cap<sup>t</sup> John How shall provide Entertainment for the comitee chosen by y<sup>e</sup> General Court for y<sup>e</sup> purpose aforesaid voted

To the Selectmen of Topsfield Gentlemen

We do unanimously agree that in case Daniel Waters will take care of his Mother Waters and maintain her suteably as she is his mother; and according to his fathers agreement in providing for her: then we y<sup>e</sup> subscribers do Ingage that duering the time & terme of her life provided y<sup>t</sup> he y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Waters provides for his mother as a boves<sup>d</sup> we will free him from being Imprest into Her maj<sup>ties</sup> service provided the said Waters frees the town from all or any charge improviding for her

Dat<sup>d</sup> 14<sup>th</sup> Octo: 1707

Sign<sup>d</sup> sealed & delivered

in presence of us

Daniel Redington

William Smith

his

Zacheus Z Perkins

mark

John Gould Cap<sup>t</sup>

Ephraim Dorman Lieut

Samuel Howlett Ensign

Copia vera as Attests Samuel Standley Town Clerke for  
Topsfield

Know all men that I Daniel Waters of Topsfield in y<sup>e</sup> county of Essex do oblidge my selfe & all my Estate to y<sup>e</sup> selectmen of Topsfield: to take my mother in Law Waters into my care & keeping: and to clear the Town from any furdur charg or trouble about her: duering her life; upon those conditions that I received of the Selectmen

Dat<sup>d</sup> 14<sup>th</sup> Octo 1707

Daniel Waters

Sign<sup>d</sup> Sealed & delivered in presence of us









Samuel Perley sen<sup>r</sup> had liberty granted him to make a fire in our watch House on Saboth Dayes at noontime so long as y<sup>e</sup> Town sees cause voted

[132] Boston Octo<sup>r</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> 1707 Rec<sup>d</sup> of M<sup>r</sup> Thomas Perley Consta: of Topsfield five Pounds fourteen shillings and one penney in full rec<sup>d</sup> for M<sup>r</sup> James Taylor Treasu<sup>r</sup> per Jer. Allene

Copia vera attests Sam<sup>l</sup> Stanley Town Clerke

At a Lawfull Meeting of y<sup>e</sup> Town of Topsfield y<sup>e</sup> 28<sup>th</sup> of Jan<sup>y</sup> 1707 or 8 L<sup>t</sup> Tobijah Perkins is chosen commissioner to cary in y<sup>e</sup> Towns Estate to the Shire Town voted

The Town chose y<sup>e</sup> present Selectmen to be Trustees to Joyne with the afore s<sup>d</sup> commissioner to assess the Towns Estate voted

the Town agreed to give m<sup>r</sup> Capen two Contributions in a year for his Incouragement to Preach Lectures, the contributions to be on Saboth Dayes voted

At a Lawfull & General Meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield on the second Day of March 1707 or 8 Deac. Samuel Howlett is chosen Moderator for s<sup>d</sup> Day voted

Samuel Stanley is chosen Town Clerke for y<sup>e</sup> year Insuing voted

John ffrench and Amos Dorman are chosen constables for y<sup>e</sup> year Insuing voted

L<sup>t</sup> Tobijah Perkins; Corp<sup>l</sup> Jacob Town; Ebenezer Averell; Isaac Estey and Samuel Stanley are chosen Selectmen for the year Insuing voted

Thomas Perkins; Thomas Robinson and John Averell are chosen Surveyers of highwayes for the year Insuing voted

Cap<sup>t</sup> John How and Clerk Elisha Perkins are ffence viewers for y<sup>e</sup> year Insuing voted

Joseph Borman; John Cummings & Job Averell are tithing[men] for y<sup>e</sup> year Insuing voted





the Town agreed to leave it to y<sup>e</sup> Selectmen to give Ips-  
 which farms men an answer to there petition concerning Seats  
 in y<sup>e</sup> Meeting House voted

the Town agreed to sell John Prichitt Jun<sup>r</sup> half an Acre of  
 Land on y<sup>e</sup> North Side of Ipswich Road a littell above his  
 shop voted

the Town agreed & chose L<sup>t</sup> Ephraim Dorman & Sarj<sup>t</sup>  
 John Hovey to lay out y<sup>e</sup> above mentioned land voted

the Town agreed to adjourn the meeting to ye next frie  
 Day comsevenight voted

We whose Names are under Writon being appointed by  
 the Selectmen to measur the Land which the Town is to  
 have of Zacheus Perkins; in lue of so much Land on the  
 South Side of the River as Shall be Judged aquivalent; the  
 Town and Zacheus Perkins having made an Exchang; have  
 Measured the Said Land and the Bounds of it are as follow-  
 eth; beging at a Walnut Tree at the Sout[h] East Cor-  
 ner of y<sup>e</sup> said Land and so running Westwardly to a heap of  
 Stons in Daniel Clarkes Line; and so by Daniel Clarkes  
 Line to a popler Tree Standing in a gutter in the fence;  
 and from thence by the Town Common to the Walnut Tree  
 f[i]rst mentioned the which by Measur Eleaven Acres and  
 Twenty two Rods

Joseph Town  
 Samuel Stanley

We whose Names are under Writon being Mutaly Chosen  
 by the Town of Topsfield and Zachus Perkins; that is to say  
 Abraham How for Topsfield and Henry Wilkins for Zacheus  
 Perkins to view & Determin the difference between the above  
 mentioned piece of Land which the Said Perkins has lay'd  
 Down to the Town: and the Land which the Town gives to  
 y<sup>e</sup> said Perkins in lue of it on the South Side of y<sup>e</sup> River  
 Joyning to Lieu<sup>t</sup> Perkinses Lot and Wenham Meadows  
 which accordingly on the 16<sup>th</sup> Day of feb<sup>r</sup> 1707 or 8 have met  
 and viewed and valued both pieces of Land above mention-  
 ed; and have Determined that the said Perkins shall have  
 Thirteen Acres of the said Land on the South Side of y<sup>e</sup>



River for the Land he has lay<sup>d</sup> down to the Town on the North Side of y<sup>e</sup> River provided that the way to come at the Clay ground may be at the South End of y<sup>e</sup> Said Clay ground and so to the Common and this is our award and Determination as witness our Hands

Abraham How

his

Henry H Wilkins

mark

A true copy Attests Samuel Stanley Town Cler.

At a Lawfull Meeting of y<sup>e</sup> Town of Topsfield by adjoyrment from y<sup>e</sup> second Day of March 1707 or 8 to twelveth Day Currant, and then met chose Cap<sup>t</sup> John How and L<sup>t</sup> Ephraim Dorman to Serve on y<sup>e</sup> Jury of trials at Ipswich Court next Insuing and Elisha Perkins to be Grand Jury Man for y<sup>e</sup> year Insuing voted

the Town agreed that a Cartway shall be left between wenham medow and Thomas Townses medow; and that Land which Zacheus Perkins hath of the Town upon exchange on y<sup>e</sup> South side of y<sup>e</sup> River voted

the Town granted Liberty to some young Women in y<sup>e</sup> Town to make a hinde seat in ye East Gallerie; the town reserving their right in y<sup>e</sup> Meeting Hous voted

the Town granted and agreed that persons belonging to the Town shall have liberty to fall wood and Timber according as they need it; provided they carry away the Tops of what they fall as well as the Bodies voted

the Town agreed that no man in the Town shall sell or cary out of Town any Wood or Timber or Bark taking it upon our Town Common on the penalty of five Pounds per load voted

At a Lawfull Meeting of y<sup>e</sup> selectmen 12<sup>th</sup> Day of March 170<sup>8</sup> Thomas Perkins; Thomas Robinson & John Averell toke y<sup>e</sup> oath of surveyers of highwayes: and Capt John How & Elisha Perkins took y<sup>e</sup> oath of fence viewers and John ffrench and Amos Dorman took y<sup>e</sup> Oath of Constables





all Sworn by and before the Selectmen and Town Clerke;  
 Entred by order of ye selectmen

Samuel Stanley Clerke

At a Lawfull Meeting of y<sup>e</sup> Town of Topsfield y<sup>e</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> of May 1708 Deac. Thomas Dorman & L<sup>t</sup> Tobijah Perkins are Chosen to serve on y<sup>e</sup> Grand Jury at y<sup>e</sup> Superiour Court to be holden at Ipswich on the Eighteenth Day of May Insta<sup>t</sup> and Lt Thomas Baker M<sup>r</sup> Timothy Perkins & Corp<sup>l</sup> Ephraim Willds are chosen to serve on the Jury of Trials at y<sup>e</sup> Court afore<sup>sd</sup> voted

At a Lawfull Meeting of y<sup>e</sup> Town of Topsfield y<sup>e</sup> 14<sup>th</sup> of May 1708. Lieu<sup>t</sup> Thomas Baker is Chosen Representative for y<sup>e</sup> year Insuing voted

the Town granted M<sup>r</sup> Capen liberty to Improve y<sup>e</sup> Watch House so far as the Town hath Intrest in it voted

secondly the Town granted M<sup>r</sup> Capen liberty to make a place in y<sup>e</sup> Watch to let in more Light for his conveniency to work by voted

[133] Wee whose Names are under writen being appointed by y<sup>e</sup> Selectmen to lay out a highway from the Bridg over y<sup>e</sup> River by Edward Putnams to John Nickolsis and from thence to Thomas Robinsons; accordingly we have lay'd out y<sup>e</sup> said way from: Thomas Robinsons as the Cart way now goes to John Nickolsis house; and from John Nickolsis House as y<sup>e</sup> way now goes along by John Burtons House; and so along as the Cartway now goes: half the way to be vpon the Land of M<sup>r</sup> Cheeversis: and halfe s<sup>d</sup> way upon y<sup>e</sup> Land of Thomas Robinsons till it comes so far as the way goes upon their Land: and so along as the way now goes to Phillip Knights House; and so on as the Cartway now goes till it comes to y<sup>e</sup> River by or beyond Edward Putnams House

Samuel Stanley  
 Joseph Town

Dat 3 May 1707 or 8

Copia vera as attests Sam<sup>l</sup> Stanley Town Clerke

Rec<sup>d</sup> of Sarj<sup>t</sup> John Gould y<sup>e</sup> full sum committed to him to



colect for my vse & for the year 1705. it being 39 Pounds pay: and 15 pounds 10 shillings money: I say recei<sup>d</sup> the full Sum above said per me Joseph Capen

A true Copy as Attests Sam<sup>l</sup> Stanley Town Cler.

Dat<sup>d</sup> 20<sup>th</sup> July 1708

Boston January 9<sup>th</sup> 1706 Rec<sup>d</sup> of M<sup>r</sup> Jacob Town Consta: of Topsfield by M<sup>r</sup> John Gould Six Pounds thirteen Shillings & Nine pence in full rec<sup>d</sup> for M<sup>r</sup> James Taylor Treasurer per Jer Allene

A true Copy as Attests Sam<sup>l</sup> Stanley Town Cler. for Topsfield

Boston Septem<sup>r</sup> 18<sup>th</sup> 1708 Rec<sup>d</sup> of M<sup>r</sup> Thomas Perley Consta: of Topsfield Nine Pounds sixteen shillings & three pence in full received for M<sup>r</sup> James Taylor Treasu<sup>r</sup> per Jer Allene

Copia vera as Attests Sam<sup>l</sup> Stanley Town Cler. for Topsfield

Boston 3<sup>d</sup> 1708 Rec<sup>d</sup> of M<sup>r</sup> Michael Dwaniell Consta. of Topsfield Three Pounds and Ten Shillings in full rec<sup>d</sup> for M<sup>r</sup> James Taylor Treasurer per Jer Allene

Rec<sup>d</sup> of M<sup>r</sup> Thomas Perley Constable of Topsfield for y<sup>e</sup> year 1706 the full of y<sup>e</sup> Rate in pay and money; that is that part of y<sup>e</sup> Rate Committed to him to gather for y<sup>e</sup> use of y<sup>e</sup> ministry in Topsfield for s<sup>d</sup> year. I say rec<sup>d</sup> by me Joseph Capen

At a Lawfull Meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield on the first Day of March 170<sup>8</sup> being there General Meeting Lieu<sup>t</sup> Tobijah Perkins is Chosen Moderator for y<sup>e</sup> Day

Samuel Stanley is Chosen Town Clerk for y<sup>e</sup> year Insuing

John Hovey Jun<sup>r</sup> & Joseph Town Tersus are Chosen Constables for y<sup>e</sup> year Insuing

L<sup>t</sup> Tobijah Perkins; Corp<sup>l</sup> Joseph Town; Lt. Ephraim





Dorman: Thomas Howlett and Samuel Stanley are chosen  
Selectmen for the year Insuing voted

Joshua Town: Nathaniel Porter and Jesse Dorman are  
chosen Surveyers of highways for the year Insuing voted

Sarj<sup>t</sup> John Averell and Corp<sup>l</sup> Ephraim Willds are Chosen  
ffence viewers for the year Insuing voted

Sarj<sup>t</sup> John Gould; Timothy Perkins Jun<sup>r</sup> and John Curtis  
Jun<sup>r</sup> are chosen Tithing men for the year Insuing voted

William Town is chosen Grand Jury man for y<sup>e</sup> year Insu-  
ing voted

Sarj<sup>t</sup> John Hovey and Michael Dwaniel Jun<sup>r</sup> are chosen to  
serve on the Jury of Trials at Ipswich Court next Insuing  
voted

Samuel Stanley sen<sup>r</sup> is Chosen School Master for the year  
Insuing voted

Benjemen Bixby is Chosen to Dig Graves in y<sup>e</sup> Town &  
to have three shillings and six pence per Grave for all above  
four foot long: and two shillings for all under four foot long  
voted

Thomas Dwaniel and William Hobs are Chosen Hawards  
or field drivers for the year Insuing voted

the Town agreed to lay a restriction upon Cuting of wood  
and timber upon our Town Common voted

[134] and the restriction is as followeth: viz that no Tree  
or Pole under a foot over shall be Cut down upon our Town  
Common on penalty of Ten Shillings per Tree or Pole: and  
also that no Tree or Trees above a foot over shall be cut  
d[own] upon said Common under the penalty of Twenty  
Shillings per Tree voted

M<sup>r</sup> Isaac Peabody; Corp<sup>l</sup> Daniel Clarke; Phillip Knight  
and Isaac Eastey Jun<sup>r</sup> Enter there Contrary desent

y<sup>e</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> Day of March 1708-9 Sarj<sup>t</sup> Gould; Timothy Per-  
kins Jun<sup>r</sup> & John Curtis Jun<sup>r</sup> being chosen tithing-men for



may the 9<sup>th</sup> 1709

John Batchelder  
William Rogers

Copia vera as Attests Sam<sup>l</sup> Stanley Town Cler.

At a lawfull meeting of y<sup>e</sup> Inhabitants of y<sup>e</sup> Town of Topsfield it being their General Town Meeting on y<sup>e</sup> first Day of march 1708-9: the Town agreed to lay a restriction upon y<sup>e</sup> Cuting of Wood and Timber upon our Town Common  
voted

the restriction is as followeth: viz: that no Tree or Pole under a foot over shall be cut down upon our Town Common under y<sup>e</sup> penalty of Ten Shillings per Tree or Pole: and also that no Tree or Trees above a foot over shall be Cut down upon said Common under the penalty of Twente Shillings per Tree  
voted

this is a true Copy as it stands Entred in Topsfield Records as Attests Sam<sup>l</sup> Stanley Town Clerke for Topsfield

Essex. fs. Att a General Sessions of y<sup>e</sup> peace holden at Ipswich march 29, 1709 the above By-Laws were Read Considered allowe[d] and confirmed

Attest Stephen Sewall Cler.

We whose Names are under writen Being Chosen by y<sup>e</sup> Towne of Salem & Topsfield to perambulate y<sup>e</sup> Bounds between s<sup>d</sup> Towns have accordingly owned and renewed them unto a red oak Tree with a heap of Stones at it commonly called or known to be by crumwells Rock and from thence to a heap of stons between three white oke Trees by a great Ash Swamp; then to a heap of stons near Nickolsis Brook then to a dry Tree fallen down with a heap of stons near Nickolsis Brook then to a dry Tree fallen down with a heap of stons at it; near the head of Smiths medow; then to a crotched Black Oak Tree Near [135] Wheell Brook and thence to a white oak Tree with Stons at it near Wenham highway.

Dated April Eighteenth Day 1709

for Topsfield

for Salem

John How

Peter Osgood

Ephraim [

]

Tobijah Perkins





Copia vera attests Samuel Stanley Town Clerke for Topsfield

Wee whose Names are hereunto Subscribed; being appointed by Ipswich and Topsfield for Perambulation on y<sup>e</sup> Bounds between said towns Respectively; have mett the twenty fifth of this Instant & have Renewed y<sup>e</sup> Bounds as followeth; beginning att the Apple Tree in L<sup>t</sup> Thomas Perleys field; thence to a Black Oak Tree with Stons at it thence to a whitt oak Tree marked with Stons at it; near y<sup>e</sup> Pond called M<sup>r</sup> Bakers Pond so on a straight Line to y<sup>e</sup> Pond; thence as y<sup>e</sup> Pond runs to a White oak Tree marked with Stons at it; at y<sup>e</sup> South East corner of s<sup>d</sup> pond next ffosters; thence to a Black oak-Tree w<sup>th</sup> Stons at it; nex[t] to a wallnutt Tree w<sup>th</sup> Stons at it; thence to Crotched Red oak tree w<sup>th</sup> Stons in y<sup>e</sup> crotch; next to a Red oak tree w<sup>th</sup> Stones at it; next to an olde white oak tree in Jacob ffosters field; and so on a Straight Line to M<sup>r</sup> Symoniss farm so called; and then s<sup>d</sup> farme to be y<sup>e</sup> Bound till it comes to a stake by or near a Spring near y<sup>e</sup> corner of M<sup>r</sup> Winthrops farme in a Meadow from thence to a stake & stons at it; on y<sup>e</sup> Side of M<sup>r</sup> Pains Hill so called: then from s<sup>d</sup> Stake westwardly to a Stake & Heap of Stons; and so on a line to y<sup>e</sup> Brook that runs to William Howletts Hous then as y<sup>e</sup> Brook Runs into Ipswich River.

Ipswich Men

Topsfield Men

William Howlett

Samuel Howlett

Nathaniel Hart

Thomas Perley

Phillip ffowler

May 25<sup>th</sup> 1709

Copia vera as Attests Sam<sup>ll</sup> Stanley Town Clerke for Topsfield

This 6<sup>th</sup> of October 1709 we whose Names are Subscribed; have according as we were Impowered by y<sup>e</sup> Selectmen; lay'd out a highway for our Town to y<sup>e</sup> Clay Pites: and allso for Beverley and Wenham Men to cary ther Hay according to our Town order; begining at the Medow by Thomas Townses so by the fence on y<sup>e</sup> left hand and a white oak on the right hand Marked: and so on between the fence & a Black oak marked and so on between Thomas Townes fence on y<sup>e</sup> left



hand: and Zacheus Perkins his fence on the right hand: and so upon a Ridg to a white oak marked on the left; and still on y<sup>e</sup> Ridg about Tenn Rods; and then leveing y<sup>e</sup> Ridg on the right hand: and a swamp on y<sup>e</sup> left till it comes to two white oaks Marked one on the Right hand the other on the left: and so to the Clay-Pites; and so on leaving y<sup>e</sup> Clay Pites on the left hand; and so through Zacheus Perkins fence to two White Oaks marked on Each Side; and y<sup>e</sup> meadow on the left hand untill it come to two Blacke Oaks marked on Each side of y<sup>e</sup> way: and so into a usall Cartways from Wenham Meadows to a White Oak Tree and a Black Oak Tree marked on Each side y<sup>e</sup> highway; and so along the Cartway to Wenham Causway so Called

John How  
Tobijah Perkins  
Ephraim Dorman

Copia vera as Attests Samuel Stanley Towne Clerke for  
Topsfield

At a Lawfull Meeting of y<sup>e</sup> Town of Topsfield y<sup>e</sup> thirteenth Day of December 1709 the Town allowed Nathaniel Averell the money that was Due from M<sup>r</sup> Endicotts farm to y<sup>e</sup> Town for y<sup>e</sup> time s<sup>d</sup> Averell was Constable voted

Topsfield June y<sup>e</sup> third 1706 At a lawfull Meeting of y<sup>e</sup> SelectMen; then appointed and Chose Corp<sup>l</sup> John Curtis; Sarj<sup>t</sup> Daniel Redington and Elisha Perkins to go & lay out the way for Beverley Men from Wenham Land near the Causey to y<sup>e</sup> Meadow near Thomas Townses

a true copy Entred per	Elisha Perkins in y <sup>e</sup> name
Sam <sup>l</sup> Sanley Town Cler.	of y <sup>e</sup> rest of y <sup>e</sup> Selectmen of
Dat <sup>d</sup> Decem <sup>r</sup> 14 <sup>th</sup> 1709	Topsfield

We whose Names are under writen; being Chosen to lay out a way for Beverley Men from Wenham land near y<sup>e</sup> Casey to ye meadow near Thomas Townses; have met this first day of July 1706 & have lay'd out y<sup>e</sup> way two Rods wide: begining at y<sup>e</sup> meadow; the first are Stakes with Stons at them on Either side y<sup>e</sup> way; and y<sup>e</sup> way is y<sup>e</sup> plane beaten Roade up the first Hill with Trees marked; and then turning to y<sup>e</sup> right with trees marked till it comes





to y<sup>e</sup> great Hill; and then y<sup>e</sup> plain path till it comes to Wenham Land; with Trees marked all the way.

this is a true copy Entred  
per Sam<sup>l</sup> Stanley Town  
Cler.

John Curtis  
Daniel Redington  
Elisha Perkins

Dat<sup>d</sup> Decem<sup>r</sup> 14<sup>th</sup> 1709

[136] Rec<sup>d</sup> of Consta<sup>ble</sup> Perkins; Consta: Timothy Perkins; who was Constable for the year 1695 I say Received of him this 20<sup>th</sup> Day of y<sup>e</sup> 10<sup>th</sup> mon<sup>th</sup> 1709 M<sup>r</sup> Endicotts Rates; in pay & money for y<sup>e</sup> above s<sup>d</sup> year, which was 16 shillings pay and 5 shillings money I owing said Perkins for Bricks; he accepting so much as Payed by me Joseph Capen

Accepted of Consta<sup>ble</sup> Nathaniel Averell the full of whot he was to colect as Constable for y<sup>e</sup> year 1702 there being about Twenty shillings behinde to be collected by him; which on his word to see it done to my Satisfaction I have accepted it as allready done; I say accepted it as in full for that year this 20<sup>th</sup> Day of y<sup>e</sup> 10<sup>th</sup> mon<sup>th</sup> 1709 by me Joseph Capen

Boston Novem<sup>r</sup> 21<sup>st</sup> 1709 Rec<sup>d</sup> of John ffrench Consta. of Topsfield Eighteen pounds five shillings & Tenn pence in full rec<sup>d</sup> for M<sup>r</sup> James Taylor Treasurer per Jn<sup>o</sup> Whellwright

may 14<sup>th</sup> 1709 then or before Received of Constable Thomas Howlett the full of what was Committed to him to gather for y<sup>e</sup> use of y<sup>e</sup> ministry in Topsfield for y<sup>e</sup> Year 1704 I say received by me then or before the full both in pay or money per me Joseph Capen

A true Copy as Attests Samuel Stanley Town Cler.

Rec<sup>d</sup> of Corp<sup>l</sup> Joseph Town as constable for y<sup>e</sup> year 1697 ye full of Rates wear committed to him to colect for my use I say rec<sup>d</sup> in full this 17<sup>th</sup> day of September 1707-8 [*sic*] then or before me Joseph Capen

Copia vera Attests Sam<sup>l</sup> Stanley Town Clerke

Att a Lawfull & General meeting of the Town of Tops-



field on ye seventh Day of march one Thousand Seven Hundred and Nine or Ten Deac: Samuel Howlett is chosen moderator for ye Day voted

Samuel Stanley is Chosen Town Clerke for y<sup>e</sup> year Insuing voted

Thomas Robinson & Zacheus Gould are chosen Contables for the year Insuing voted

Clerke Elisha Perk[i]ns Jacob Town Ebenezer Averell John Curtis and Samuel Stanley are chosen Select men for ye year Insuing voted

John Prichitt; John Burton and Jacob Robinson are chosen Surveyers of high-ways for y<sup>e</sup> year Insuing: voted

Jacob Estey and John Town are chosen fence-viewers for the year Insuing voted

Lieu<sup>t</sup> Ephraim Dorman: Thomas Howlett and John French are chosen Tything[men] for the year Insuing voted

Zacheus Perkin[s] and John Dwaniel are chosen field Drivers for y<sup>e</sup> year Insuing voted

Isaac Estey is chosen to serue on y<sup>e</sup> Grand Jury for ye year Insuing voted

Corp<sup>l</sup> Joseph Town and Joseph Gould are chosen to Serve on y<sup>e</sup> Jury of trials at next Cour[t] to be holden at Ipswich next after y<sup>e</sup> date hereof

The above named Town Officers wear all sworn to ye fathfull discharge thier respective offices by the Select men on y<sup>e</sup> above s<sup>d</sup> 7<sup>th</sup> Day of march 1709 or 10 as attests Samuel Stanley Town Clerke for Topsfield

At a Lawfull Meeting of y<sup>e</sup> Town of Topsfield on y<sup>e</sup> Ninth Day may 1710 Capt John How and Dec<sup>n</sup> Thomas Dorman are Chosen to serve on the Grand Jury at the next Superior Court to be holden at Ipswich on y<sup>e</sup> third TuesDay of May Ins<sup>t</sup> voted

And Sarj<sup>t</sup> Daniel Clarke, Thomas Howlett and Nathaniel





Averell are chosen to serve on y<sup>e</sup> Jury of trials at y<sup>e</sup> above  
s<sup>d</sup> Court voted

At a Lawfull meeting of y<sup>e</sup> Town of Topsfield on y<sup>e</sup> 13<sup>th</sup>  
of Septem<sup>r</sup> 1710 Phillip Knight is chosen to serve on y<sup>e</sup> Jury  
of trials at Newbury Court voted

Rec<sup>d</sup> of John Hovey former Constable ye sum of foure  
Pounds and one shilling of y<sup>e</sup> accout<sup>t</sup> of y<sup>e</sup> county Rate for  
y<sup>e</sup> Town of Topsfield it being in full for their proportion  
per John Appleton County Treas

Ipswh Sep<sup>t</sup> 7, 1710

Copia vera Attests Sam<sup>l</sup> Stanley Town Clerk for Tops

[137] Boston Novem<sup>r</sup> 14<sup>th</sup> 1710 Rec<sup>d</sup> of M<sup>r</sup> John Hovey  
Consta<sup>l</sup> of Topsfield Sixteen Pounds seven shillings & five  
pence in full rec<sup>d</sup> for M<sup>r</sup> James Taylor Treas per John Wheel-  
wright

Copia vera Attest Sam<sup>l</sup> Stanley Town Clerke for Tops-  
field.

Boston Novem<sup>r</sup> 28<sup>th</sup> 1710 Rec<sup>d</sup> of Mr Zacheus Gould  
consta<sup>l</sup> of Topsfield Twenty Eight Pounds Seven shillings in  
Part rec<sup>d</sup> for M<sup>r</sup> James Taylor Treas per Jer. allene

Copia vera Attests, Sam<sup>l</sup> Stanley Cler.

At a Lawfull meeting of y<sup>e</sup> Inhabitants of y<sup>e</sup> Town of  
Topsfield Janua<sup>ry</sup> 3<sup>d</sup> 1710-11 Zacheus Gould is chosen to  
prosecute any that have or shall cut down Wood or Timber  
upon our Town Common Contrary to y<sup>e</sup> Town order voted

Boston September 20<sup>th</sup> 1710 Rec<sup>d</sup> of Consta Joseph Town  
of Topsfield thirteen Pounds and three shillings in full: rec<sup>d</sup>  
for M<sup>r</sup> James Taylor Tresr. per Jer. Allene

At a Lawfull Meeting of the Town of Topsfield it being  
there General Town Meeting on the Sixth Day of March  
1910-11 Leivt. Tobijah Perkins is chosen Moderator for  
the Day voted

Samuel Stanley is Chosen Town Clerke for y<sup>e</sup> year In-  
suing voted

(To be continued.)



## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF

NEHEMIAH KNEELAND,

PIONEER OF TOPSFIELD, MAINE.

Died, in Topsfield, Maine, suddenly, of heart disease, on June 28th, 1869, Mr. Nehemiah Kneeland. He was the son of Aaron and Hannah (Ramsdell) Kneeland and was born in Topsfield, in our county of Essex, May 5th, 1789, and being one of a large family of children, which increased in numbers beyond the capacity of the paternal mansion, it became necessary that the older boys should step out to give place to those who were coming after, and Nehemiah, having grown to the stature of a man, with a will and courage proportionate to a good share of physical strength, about 1808 started off to make his own fortune. As the then district of Maine was comparatively a wilderness, and the current of emigration had not at that time began its flow towards the West, he directed his course towards the East, and made his first stopping place in the (then) little town of Harrison, Me., which at that time had but comparatively a handful of inhabitants. There he remained about ten years, when the population became so thick,—the houses getting within some half mile of each other, and having left his father's house to find room, Harrison soon lost its charms for him, and he determined to penetrate the wilderness still farther, and from Harrison he moved northwardly to the "rural district" of Lincoln, which was then a small township with few inhabitants.





There he stayed eight years, when he began to feel the same annoyances which caused him to leave Harrison, the population becoming too dense, the neighbors getting within a mile or so towards him, with a young family of his own, and that (like his father's) still expanding, he formed another determination to make one more move, and as a large portion of Maine was an unbroken wilderness he determined to penetrate its trackless forests far beyond the haunts of civilized man, and with no other guide or assistant than the man who drove his team of oxen thither, he directed his attention and packed on his sled his household effects and farming implements, topping his load with his wife (she was Mary Goodhue of Salem) and seven children, (5 boys and 2 daughters), and started in February, 1832, through a pathless wilderness and untrodden snow of two or three feet deep—with no shelter to protect them from the severity of the storms and weather. None but a man of determined will and undaunted courage would hazard the undertaking, but he was a man just adapted to the task; to qualify him for a successful pioneer. With axe in hand, felling trees and clearing away the underbrush to make a path for the patient oxen as they drew all of this earth most dear to him, patiently and perseveringly he cut his way for thirteen wearisome days and nights; and on the morning of the fourteenth day he made a final stop, unpacked his load and sent back his man. His first business was to cut and prepare logs and build a snug, warm cabin and then to commence clearing a patch for the cultivation of a crop the coming summer, and to learn the geographical location of his whereabouts. He found himself located in what was set down on the chart of the "District of Maine" as "No. 8." The new and rich soil gave him a bountiful harvest; the streams were abundant in trout; wild game, such as moose, deer, and bear, were as plenty as might be desired and easily captured.

As his five sons and two daughters grew up, one after another found their way into the outer world and took to themselves partners to share the responsibilities of life in Section No. 8. As building materials were abundant, with a fine stream of water and good mill privilege, they built mills for sawing their logs into lumber and built them houses. And



as the romance of the father wore away, and seeing the necessity of a more dense population which would create a market for the lumber which the saw was turning out, as well as the introduction of social and moral advantages which his family needed, inducements were held out for settlers to come in. As "No. 8" implied nothing but a wilderness, it was thought proper to incorporate it into a town with a name and in 1838 Mr. Kneeland applied to the Legislature, and by his own request had it incorporated as the town of Topsfield, naming it after the place of his nativity in Massachusetts. Emigration soon commenced to set towards Topsfield. Its rich alluvial soil invited the farmer; the vast extent of the mighty forest, with excellent water privileges for converting its timber into lumber by building saw mills, the lumber men and mechanics of different trades. Soon the rough log houses gave way to pretty cottages, after a New England model. With this steady increase both by birth and emigration it has now attained to a population that supports a post office, two religious societies, and several school houses. Instead of the ox-cart and sled, the horse and buggy in summer, and the sleigh in winter are used. All this took place under the observation of Mr. Kneeland, who in his own day saw the "wilderness bud and blossom like the rose," and become one of the most thriving towns in Washington County. Mr. Kneeland always maintained an integrity of character which he inherited from his father ("Elder Kneeland," as he was called), and enjoyed the confidence and respect which was due to him who first planted the standard of civilization on the soil trodden before him by none other than the savage and the wild beast. Like a patriarch of old he looked upon the inhabitants as his children and in return was looked up to with the reverence due to him; and at his death was "gathered," not "with his fathers," but beneath the soil of his adoption; and though dead, his name will be as perpetual as that of the town.





## MRS. ELLEN AUGUSTA (HOOD) WELCH.

---

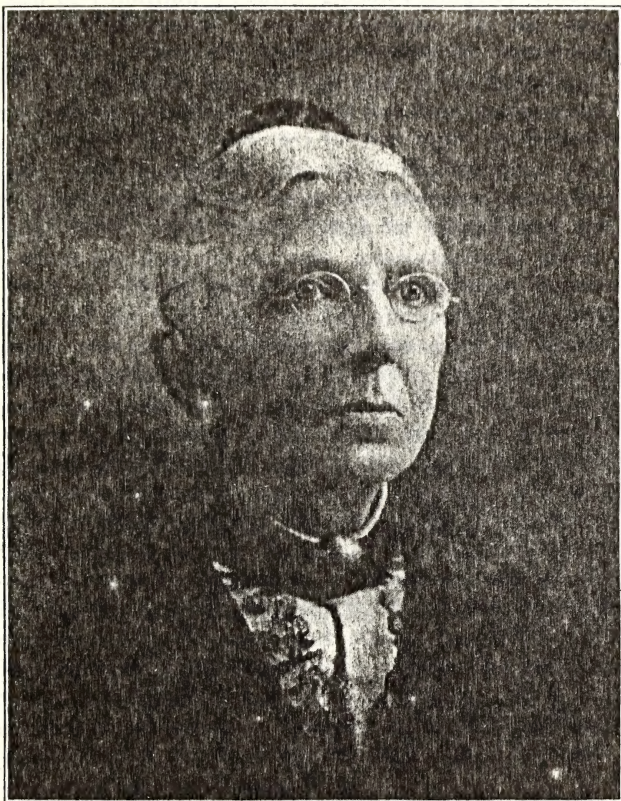
Mrs. Ellen Augusta (Hood) Welch, who died in Topsfield, March 13, 1906, was the youngest daughter of John Gould and Sarah Brown Hood, and was born in Topsfield, August 22, 1839, being of the sixth generation from Richard Hood, the immigrant, who settled in Lynn, Mass., about 1650. She was in her younger days a student of the then famous Topsfield Academy, instituted June 12, 1828, and was a member of the committee in charge of the Reunion of the Teachers and Students of the Academy, held August 12, 1897. She was a charter member of the Topsfield Historical Society. February 6, 1861, she was married at Ipswich, by Rev. Daniel Fitz, to William Welch of Newburyport, who, together with three sons, William Brown, of Plymouth, Justin Hood, and Leone Parker of Topsfield, survive her.

Mrs. Welch was a woman of a bright, keen intellect, fair minded to a degree, and when once her friendship had been won, it was a friendship unswerving to the end. Her interests included the Congregational church, anything appertaining to the welfare of the town, and current events, to each of which she was ever ready to lend her aid, although of a most retiring disposition, never putting herself forward or in any way making herself conspicuous. To those of her friends less fortunate than herself, she was ever kind and sympathetic. Above all else Mrs. Welch was a "home woman." To her, the love of home, husband, and children was paramount. Her first idea of duty seemed to be that of ministering to their needs, to create a happy home life, in short—to be a wife and mother in the fullest, deepest sense of the term. She was a great lover of the truth, and during many years of personal friendship, the writer never heard her speak ill of any one or take part in petty gossip, choosing for herself higher ideals. Her "going home" has been a great loss to her family and those chosen friends who knew her best.



## ALBERT WEBSTER.

Albert Webster, a long time of 30 years ago, was a business man died at his home in Ipswich, November 3, 1907.



MRS. ELLEN A. (HOOD) WELCH.

On the 2th of April, 1908, occurred the death of Mrs. Ellen A. Todd. She was one of the charter members of the Historical Society and always felt a deep interest in its well being. For the three years previous to her death she held the office of curator.





## ALBERT WEBSTER.

---

Albert Webster, long one of Boston's prominent business men, died at his home in Topsfield, November 8, 1902. He was the son of Jonathan P. and Susan (Knight) Chapman and was born in Ipswich, March 16, 1824. At the age of seven he was bound out in Topsfield where he remained until he was fourteen when he ran away and at last found employment in a bakery at Lowell. About this time he changed his name to Webster. He soon made his way to Boston where he found work in a candy store at 3 Brattle street and where, at the age of twenty, he went into business for himself, continuing there until 1861, when he established on Washington street the first exclusively confectioner's establishment in Boston. Here, under the old Marlboro Hotel, he sold candy until the building was demolished in 1876, and Webster's candy was the acknowledged standard of excellence. Later he was in business on Temple place and on Tremont street. He had been a member of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company since 1846 and his splendid figure always attracted attention among the Ancients, where he was noted for his dignified and noble bearing. He was also a 32d degree Mason of the Massachusetts Consistory, and a charter member of the Topsfield Historical Society. Advancing years and new methods of business caused his retirement in 1890 since when he had lived at his country place in Topsfield. Mr. Webster had three daughters and one son by his first wife, Catherine Falvey. Later he married Mary F. Loring, a member of the Choate family. His son was betrothed to Una Hawthorne, daughter of Nathaniel Hawthorne, the celebrated Romancer, but he died before the marriage while on a voyage to Honolulu.

## HARRIET E. TODD.

---

On the 8th of April, 1905, occurred the death of Miss Harriett E. Todd. She was one of the charter members of the Historical Society and always felt a deep interest in its wellfare. For the three years previous to her death she held the office of curator.



Miss Todd was born in Topsfield on October 31st, 1843, and was the daughter of Samuel and Harriett (Chase) Todd. The greater part of her life was spent in her native town, where she was loved and respected by all who knew her. In her character was blended the fearless integrity of her New England forefathers with a gentle and unselfish disposition of her own. On March 3rd, 1895, she joined the Congregational church and was always a ready and willing worker for its interest and gave liberally for its support. She was an active member of the Women's Missionary Society and many a struggling missionary has felt her interest and support. In the Ladies' Society and Sunday School she was an untiring worker.

### IRA PERLEY LONG.

---

Ira Perley Long, the son of Henry and Catherine (Perley) Long, was born at Topsfield, Mass., February 20, 1857, and died there on December 30, 1903. He married, July 29, 1877, Harriet Lake Follansbee, daughter of Moses C. and Martha (Wayland) Follansbee, who died October 1, 1893. Five children were born to them; Ethel Catherine and Ruth Alice, who died Sept. 1, 1893; Henry Follansbee, and William Chester, and Perley Lamont who died May 9, 1888. December 14, 1898, he married Laura Anna Cummings, daughter of Alfred and Salome M. (Welch) Cummings. He began to learn the trade of blacksmithing, in the shop founded by his father, but then carried on by the firm of Hurd and McLane. After staying a year with them, he moved to Danvers, where he was employed by Michael Buckley, who ran a shop at the "Port." Finishing his apprenticeship, he returned to Topsfield, and in 1877, bought J. B. McLane's share of the business, where he began his apprenticeship. After a few years of partnership with D. E. Hurd he purchased the part owned by Mr. Hurd, and carried on the business under his own name until his death. He was one of the best known men in the vicinity, and respected and loved by all who knew him. He was a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and also a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen. He was a charter member of the Topsfield Historical Society.





## JOHN AVERELL GOULD.

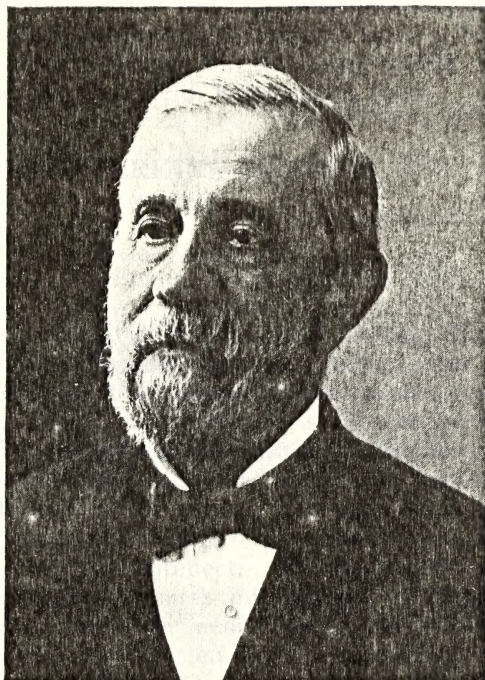
---

John Averell Gould died at his home, 18 Sutherland Road, Boston, January 30, 1906. He was elected a member of the Topsfield Historical Society, October 2, 1896. He was born in Topsfield, Mass., March 6, 1819, and was the son of John and Mary (Averell) Gould, and a direct descendant from Zaccheus Gould who was one of the founders of the town. At one time he and his son, Capt. John Gould, were the largest land owners in the region of Topsfield. Among his ancestors will be found many of the best-known Essex County family names, including those of Peabody, Appleton, Dudley, Bradstreet, Foster, Capen, Emerson, Robinson and Baker.

Mr. Gould graduated at the Topsfield Academy, and taught school in Beverly, North Reading, and Manchester, settling in Woburn in 1850, and was identified with musical matters in that town, being organist of the Congregational Church, and composing a number of pieces of music which were favorably received. He moved to Chelsea in 1863 and was a prominent member of the old Chestnut St. Congregational Church in that city, and served on the Chelsea school committee several years, and also was a member of the Common Council. While teaching school in Manchester he married, October 5, 1845, Elizabeth Cheever Leach, daughter of Capt. Benjamin Leach, of that town. After the death of his wife, in 1893, he moved to Boston, where he resided until his death. After teaching school for several years, he entered the law office of Gardiner G. Hubbard—one of the earliest owners in the American Bell Telephone Company, and whose daughter became the wife of Alexander Graham Bell. Later, Mr. Gould associated himself in business with his uncle, Dr. John Porter, of Wenham, under the firm name of John Porter & Company, who were pioneers in the manufacture of Porter's Patent Burning Fluid—so extensively used before petroleum was discovered. Later, he was associated with his son, under the name of Gould & Co., in the paint and oil business, and since 1889 had been a Director in the Gould & Cutler Corporation, of which his son, George L. Gould, is President. Mr. Gould had thus been identified with the oil and paint business of Boston for fifty-three years,



and his record during all this time was the best of high school, old-fashioned, respect-able men here. He was always interested in matters pertaining to Freetown, and particularly his birthplace, Tappan, where he had a small summer residence, the exact spot being known as "Tappan's." He left no children. He was buried in the Freetown Pioneer Grave Yard.



JOHN AVERELL GOULD

Sarah Estlin  
Dwinnell, was born  
education was a  
part of the town  
field Academy's  
village's school.  
her health, which  
thought she was  
broad mind and  
fine memory in  
affairs of the day.  
an ardent lover of  
City of the City,  
which was published in  
able ability, and not only  
produce very life-like portraits.  
The portrait of the late  
Anson McLeod which she drew the picture very rightly.  
It was pronounced by all as the best of the best.  
of her husband and his evergreen. She was a constant reader,  
especially of the Bible, which she read through every  
year, and was always ready to give an answer to any question  
referred to her which might be found therein. She was  
a charter member of the Tappan Historical Society, and  
died July 18, 1905.





and his record during all this time was that of a high-minded, old-fashioned, respected merchant. He was always interested in matters pertaining to Essex County and particularly his birthplace, Topsfield, where his son has built a modern residence, the estate now being known as "Pinelands." He left six children—one son and five daughters, among the latter being Elizabeth Porter Gould, the well known literary woman and authoress. He was buried at the family lot in Pine Grove Cemetery, Topsfield, February 2, 1906.

### SARAH PERKINS DWINELL.

Sarah Perkins, daughter of John and Louisa Richards Dwinell, was born in Topsfield, Nov. 22, 1822. Her early education was acquired at the district school in the southern part of the town. After completing her studies at the Topsfield Academy she was offered the position of teacher in the village school, but declined the offer, partly on account of her health, which was never robust, and also because she thought she was needed at home. She was a woman of a broad mind and of a keen intellect. She possessed a retentive memory and could furnish information in regard to affairs of the church and town nearly to the last. She was an ardent genealogist, and assisted Dr. Dunnell of New York City in the preparation of the Dunnell—Dwinell Genealogy which was published in 1852. She was an artist of considerable ability, and not only could draw from nature but could produce very life-like portraits. The portrait of the Rev. Anson McLoud which she drew, she prized very highly. It was pronounced by Mrs. McLoud to be the best picture of her husband she had ever seen. She was a constant reader, especially of the Bible, which she read through every year, and was always ready to give an answer to any question referred to her which might be found therein. She was a charter member of the Topsfield Historical Society, and died July 18, 1905.



# VITAL STATISTICS OF TOPSFIELD, MASS.

FOR THE YEAR 1905.

## BIRTHS.

1905.

- Jan. 8. Donald Elbridge, son of Wm. H. and Margaret Lena (Cullinane) Walsh.
- Feb. 20. Claudine, dau. of Melvin White and Bessie Evelyn (Welch) Smerage.
- Mar. 18. Harry Warren, son of Timothy Jesse and Edith Alma (Smith) Fuller.
- Apr. 11. Ellen, dau. of James Francis and Mary Agnes (Sheehan) Creedon.
- Apr. 16. Robert Russell, son of Herbert and Alice B. (Johnson) Lewis.
- Apr. 26. Gertrude Genevieve, dau. of Thomas F. and Fannie (O'Dea) Cass.
- May 20. Vivian May, dau. of Willie Albert and Grace Edith (Pierce) Fuller.
- May 21. Ruth Esther, dau. of Frederick Maxamillian and Cora Pearl (Kneeland) Williams.
- July 15. Bernard, son of Albert Herman and Josie (Tinkham) Davison.
- July 27. Frank E., son of Charles Augustus and Phoebe Anne (Ingalls) Brown.
- Aug. 4. Alice Katherine, dau. of John and Annie (Roche) Fitzgibbons.
- Aug. 14. Annie L., dau. of Hiram Leslie and Mary Louise (Murphy) Clay.
- Aug. 20. Florence Lillian, dau. of Joseph Howard and Delia Rose (Baker) Burnett.
- Aug. 26. Katherine, dau. of Oliver and Susie May (Alden) Thayer.
- Dec. 10. Irene, dau. of Samuel and Agnes (Caswell) Nicol.
- Dec. 30. Charles Hobart, son of Charles Hobart and Mary Elizabeth (Collins) Lake.

## MARRIAGES.

1905.

- Jan. 11. { William P. Elwell (Danvers), son of Andrew and Abbie (Foster) Elwell.  
Ada L. Welch (Topsfield), dau. of C. Frank and Emma (Wallace) Welch.
- Feb. 22. { James W. Goldthwait (Topsfield), son of Dennison W. and Adeline (Johnson) Goldthwait.  
Julia S. Hill (Lynn) dau. of Reuben and Roxana (Weymouth) Hill.





## MARRIAGES (Continued).

June	20.	{ Thomas F. Kane (Peabody), son Henry H. and Mary I. (Caben) Kane. Mary Belle Taylor (Topsfield), dau. of Wm. B. and Annie E. (Millard) Taylor.
June	21.	{ LeRoy Lynwood Smerage (Topsfield), son of Fred and Ella A. (Chapman) Smerage. Annie Maude Mellish (Melrose), dau. of I. Murray and Elizabeth Anne (Holman) Mellish.
Oct.	18.	{ John Willard Dwinell (Topsfield), son of Willard A. and Ruth A. (Stickney) Dwinell. Susie Marian Kelley (Winthrop), dau. of Wm. E. and Annie E. (Cole) Kelley.
Oct.	18.	{ John Robinson Gould (Topsfield), son of Samuel and Betsey (Scudder) Gould. Marion Elizabeth Averill (Topsfield), dau. of C. Austin and Margaret Y. (Sweeney) Averill.
Nov.	26.	{ George Manning Tilton (Topsfield), son of Albert F. and Emily D. (Manning) Tilton. Elsie Belle Frame (Topsfield), dau. of Francis C. and Elizabeth (Boardman) Frame.
Nov.	26.	{ Warren Thaxter Tilton (Topsfield) son of Albert F. and Emily D. (Manning) Tilton. Grace Adelaide Frame (Topsfield), dau. of Francis C. and Elizabeth (Boardman) Frame.

## DEATHS.

1905.

Jan.	14.	Thomas F. Cass, son of Thomas and Margaret (Riley) Cass, aged 50 yrs. 2 mos. 25 dys.
Jan.	20.	Eliza Ann, widow of Amos Smith Chapman, and dau. of Elisha and Dolly (Perkins) Perkins, aged 86 yrs. 8 mos. 17 dys.
Apr.	7.	Mary Jane, widow of Horace Jones Blanchard, and dau. of John and Merriam (Sargent) Able, aged 65 yrs.
Apr.	8.	Harriet Elizabeth Todd, dau. of Samuel and Harriet L. (Chase) Todd, aged, 61 yrs. 5 mos. 8 dys.
May	20.	Catherine Elizabeth Webster, dau. of Albert and Catherine E. (Falvy) Webster, aged 53 yrs. 2 mos.
May	21.	Vivian May Fuller, dau. of Willie A. and Grace E. (Pierce) Fuller, aged 12 hours.
May	28.	Charles William Stark, son of Joachim and Frederika (Stark) Stark, aged 25 yrs. 10 mos. 28 dys.
June	19.	Lucy Abbott, wife of Wm. S. Bell, and dau. of Christian Sleppy, aged 66 yrs. 6 mos. 16 days.



## DEATHS (Continued).

- July 18. Sarah Perkins Dwinell, dau. of John and Louisa (Richards) Dwinell, aged 82 yrs. 8 mos. 1 dy.
- Aug. 2. Charles H. Lake, son of Eben H. and Susan S. (Whitiker) Lake, aged 48 yrs. 1 mo. 2 dys.
- Aug. 3. Amos Fuller, son of Benjamin and Eliza M. (Foster) Fuller, aged 31 yrs. 4 mos. 9 dys.
- Aug. 9. Robert Preston Williams, son of Ezra P. and Lydia P. (Ober) Williams, aged 29 yrs. 9 mos. 13 dys.
- Aug. 11. Bernard Davison, son of Albert H. and Josie (Tinkham) Davison, aged 27 dys.
- Aug. 20. Florence Lillian Burnett, dau. of Joseph H. and Delia Rose (Baker), Burnett, aged 2 hours.
- Aug. 26. Bertha A., wife of Thos. F. McKeague and dau. of Neil and Mary (McDonald) McDonald, aged 25 yrs.
- Sept. 24. Mildred Gardner Kneeland, dau. of Cyrus A. S. and Annie (Latter) Kneeland, aged, 10 yrs. 2 mos.
- Sept. 30. Emily A. Dodge, dau. of Pyam and Lucy (Langdell) Dodge, aged 77 yrs. 9 mos.
- Nov. 12. Ruth Hannah, widow of John Thurston, and dau. of Wm. Bridges aged 73 yrs. 5 mos. 21 dys.
- Nov. 13. Minnie, wife of Thomas F. Farrell, and dau. of John and Mary (Kinne) Mullaney, aged 38 yrs. 7 mos. 26 days. (Died in Salem).
- Nov. 16. Benjamin Colburn Dodd, son of Benj. C. and Elizabeth (Goodell) Dodd, aged 62 yrs. 5 mos. 16 dys.

## Deaths in other places. Interment in Topsfield.

1905.

- Jan. 9. Harrison P. Bradstreet, died at Boston, Mass., aged 68 yrs. 9 mos. 9 dys.
- Feb. 25. Willian Perkins Towne, died at Boston, Mass., aged 62 yrs.
- Apr. 4. Elijah Benton Wallace, died at Wenham, Mass., aged 65 yrs. 8 dys.
- Apr. 25. Benj. W. Fuller, died at Boxford, Mass., aged 39 yrs. 29 dys.
- May 13. Juliette Preignan, died at Boston, Mass., aged 34 yrs.
- Aug. 10. John N. Towne, died at Danvers, Mass., aged 52 yrs. 2 mos. 10 dys.
- Oct. 24. Julia Rowena Towne, died at Evanston, Ill., aged 88 yrs. 28 dys.
- Nov. 5. Erastus Kenney Clarke, died at Lynn, Mass., aged 77 yrs. 2 mos. 15 dys.
- Nov. 25. Annie L. Heath, died at Beverly, Mass., aged 2 mos. 12 dys.
- Dec. 14. Anstis P. Downes, died at Melrose, Mass., aged 93 yrs. 3 mos. 27 dys.





## CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS IN TOPSFIELD IN 1905.

- March 15. House of T. Jesse Fuller damaged by fire.  
 April. Rev. Herbert S. Dow of Shelburne Falls, Mass., appointed pastor of the Methodist Church.  
 April. Very dry weather with numerous forest fires.  
 June 15. Two additional passenger trains stopping at Topsfield, provided by the B. & M. Railroad.  
 September. Thomas E. Proctor purchases the Dr. H. F. Sears estate.  
 September. Charles Ross elected principal of the High School.  
 Oct. 9. Two more passenger trains stopping at Topsfield provided by the B. & M. Railroad.  
 October. The Robinson-Perkins-Donaldson property in the east part of the town sold to J. F. Lawrence of Boston.  
 Oct.-Dec. Epidemic of scarlet fever.

## BUILDINGS CONSTRUCTED DURING THE YEAR 1905.

- Bradley B. Palmer, Asbury street; dwelling house, garage, and ice house.  
 Gilbert B. Balch; barn on Howlett street.  
 George Francis Dow, Main street; addition to dwelling house.  
 Mrs. Anna A. Clerk, Main street; addition to dwelling house and stable; hen house formerly on the Pemberton-Jackman place moved and remodelled into a dove-cote.  
 Thomas W. Pierce, Boston street; garage, at the "Ray" farm.  
 Mrs. Edward S. Thayer, Boston street; store house.  
 Thomas E. Proctor, Perkins street; carriage house.  
 Charles V. Jackman, Central street; blacksmith shop.  
 E. B. Woodbury & Co. Summer street; coal and hay shed.



THE  
HISTORICAL  
COLLECTIONS  
OF THE  
TOPSFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

---

VOL. XII

---

1907

---

TOPSFIELD, MASS.

Published by the Society

1907





GEORGE FRANCIS DOW

*Editor*

THE MERRILL PRESS

Topsfield

MASS



## CONTENTS.

---

FUNERAL SERMON ON THE DEATH OF REV. JOSEPH GREEN OF SALEM VILLAGE, BY REV. JOSEPH CAPEN, - - - - -	5
ELEGY ON THE DEATH OF REV. JOSEPH GREEN, BY REV. NICHOLAS NOYES, - - - - -	39
TOPSFIELD STREETS AND WAYS, BY HENRY FOLLANS- BEE LONG, - - - - -	48
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF JACOB KIMBALL, - - -	96H
JOHN REDINGTON OF TOPSFIELD, AND SOME OF HIS DESCENDANTS, BY J. GRANVILLE LEACH AND CORNELIUS M. R. CARTER, - - - - -	97
LETTER TO LIEUT. JOHN GOULD REGARDING HIS MILI- TARY COMPANY, - - - - -	107
MEMORANDUM CONCERNING THE CONGREGATIONAL MEETING HOUSE IN 1817, - - - - -	108
CERTIFICATE CONCERNING PHILIP MCKENZIE, - - -	108
NEWSPAPER ITEMS RELATING TO TOPSFIELD, 1816- 1829, COPIED BY GEORGE FRANCIS DOW, - - -	109
TOPSFIELD VITAL STATISTICS, 1906, - - - - -	149
BUILDINGS CONSTRUCTED, 1906, - - - - -	152

Dove's 40.00 (30 10/15)





A FUNERAL SERMON OCCASIONED BY THE  
DEATH OF MR. JOSEPH GREEN LATE  
PASTOR OF THE CHURCH IN SALEM VILLAGE,

BY JOSEPH CAPEN

PASTOR OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD.

WITH A PREFATORY EPISTLE BY DR. INCREASE MATHER.

---

To the READER.

*There are no Men in the World more hated by Satan, or by those that are Eminently his Children, than the faithful Ministers of Christ, for that they are above others instrumental in building Gods Kingdom, and in destroying the Devils. On the other hand, there are some who esteem them highly for their works sake. Some great Persons have done so. The great Constantine (the best Emperor that the World has known) exceeded therein. And it is reported that Ernustus Duke of Brunswick having prevailed with Urbanus Regius to leave Auspurg, and to Preach the Gospel in his Dukedom, he loved and honoured him as if he had been his Father, when his People in Auspurg solicited the Duke for his return to them again, he said all his Dukedom fared the better for that Man, and that he would as soon part with his Eyes as part*



# A Funeral SERMON

Occasioned by the

# DEATH

OF

Mr. Joseph Green,

Late Pastor of the Church in  
Salem Village.

By Joseph Capen,

Pastor of the Church in Topsfield.

With a Prefatory Epistle by  
Dr. INCREASE MATHER.

Zech. i. 5. Your Fathers, where are they? and  
the Prophets do they live for ever?

Act. viii. 2. Devout men buried Stephen, and  
brought him to burial, and made great lamentation over him.

1 Cor. iv. 7. We have this treasure of earthly  
vessels.

B. Q. S. T. O. N.

Printed by A. Green, for Samuel Green, at the  
Shop near the Black Meeting House.





with him. *The States of Holland removed Walleus from Middlebrough to Leyden, 'tis said that when he Preached his farewell Sermon, his People were drowned in Tears. Such was their Love to him. That Man of God Excellent Mr. Flavel (my worthy and dear Friend) of Dartmouth, dyed in Exeter. His body was removed from thence to Dartmouth, there to be interr'd. Mr. Galpin who attended the Funeral has these words, When the Coffin [ii] was brought to the water side, and taken out of the Hearse and put into the Boat, I never saw so many weeping Eyes, nor heard so much bitter Lamentation in all my Life. Surely that Place might rightly be called Bochim, a place of Weeping, the Tears, the Sighs, the Cries, the Groans that were there seen and heard, where enough even to pierce an heart of flint. An Excellent Sermon was Preached the next day on that sad occasion by a Reverend Minister of that City.*

*They that have had the most intimate acquaintance with Mr. Joseph Green, the late faithful Pastor of the Church in Salem Village, commend him to Posterity as one of very Exemplary Piety. It adds to his reputation, that altho' the People there, were too much divided before his being among them, yet in his dayes, and under his Ministry there was Peace and Truth. They have honoured themselves in the Love & Honour which they have Express'd to their deceased Pastor. I am informed, that they are the Publishers of the Sermon Emitt'd herewith. The Reverend Author from an Excess of Modesty and Humility, was not willing to transmit it to the Press, only at the importunity of those who were affected under the hearing of it, he gave them a Copy of his Discourse. The Reader will find it to be Scriptural, Serious, and Suitable to the occasion when and where it was delivered. It is indeed a Plain Discourse, but not the less Edifying for that. Cibus simplex Optimus. It is wholesome food. Austin notwithstanding his great Learning would Preach Plain Sermons, because, (said he) If I Preach very [iii] Learnedly only Learned Men can understand me, but if I Preach Plain Sermons the Learned can understand me and the unlearned too, so both will be Edified. Luther*



*distinguished Divines into Theologus gloriæ, et Theologus crucis. Theologus gloriæ, is a Preacher whose design is to set forth himself, to shew his Wit and Learning, that would lace his Discourses with fine florid Phrases, and gingle with Latin and Greek Sentences. There is nothing of that here. Theologus crucis is the Preacher that Studies not to please but to profit and accomodates himself to the meanest Capacities.*

*The Dispensations of Divine Providence are Mysterious. His Judgments, His Methods in ordering the Affairs of the World are a great deep. How unsearchable are His Judgments, and his ways past finding out? Sometimes Pious Young Ministers are Nipt in Flore, snatched away when much more fruit has been hoped for from them. So it was with that beloved Brother and faithful Minister in the Lord, whose Death occasioned this Sermon. When others that have been a long time barren and unfruitful are spared to a great Old Age; of which he that writes these lines is an Instance. For Infinite Patience has continued me in the Lords Vineyard a longer time than any Minister of the Gospel now living in New-England. If God shall Lengthen my Life to the Fourth Month next Ensing, threescore Years will be Expired since I began to Teach Publickly. But I am greatly ashamed to think what an Unprofitable Servant I have been, and this not only compared with others, but with [iv] some of my nearest Relatives. My Father left four Sons Employed in the work of the Ministry. My Eldest Brother Samuel was joyned in the Pastoral Office with the Renowned Dr. Winter in Dublin, and was a great blessing to that City and Kingdom. Him did God take in his Prime, when in his Forty-fifth Year. And Forty-six years are past since his removal to a better World. My Brother Nathanael who dyed in London Pastor of a Congregational Church there, was at his Decease Eleven Years short of my Age. My Brother Eleazar the first Pastor of the Church in Northampton was ripe for Heaven, when but Thirty-five Years of Age. I who am the Youngest and Least of all my Fathers Sons, am yet remaining until debilitated by Age.*





*I do not Envy those that have out-run me, and have got to the End of their Race before me. I shall quickly overtake them. When that great Reformer in Zurick (Bullinger) was near his End, it was a Comfortable thought to him that he should shortly be with the holy Patriarch, and Prophets & Apostles, and Martyrs of Jesus. Why may not I be glad that I am hastning to be with them, & with my dearest Relatives that are gone before me, and with Cotton, Norton, Mitchel, Bates, How, Mead, and many other of my dear acquaintance, and which is by far the best of all, to be with CHRIST.*

Increase Mather.

Mr. JOSEPH GREEN

Late Pastor of the Church in Swain Village,

Who Dyed Novemb. 20. 1718. Aged Forty Years  
and Two Days.

ACTS XX. 28.

*Sorrowing most of all for the words which spake, that they should see his face no more.*

The holy Evangelist Luke (who on good grounds for it) is thought by Interpreters to have written this Book of the Acts of the Apostles, as may be gathered from what is said Act. I. 1. Where he speaks of a former Treatise which he had written and dedicated to the most excellent *Theophilus*, who was doubtless a very Eminent, Honourable Person; as much as such a Title was not wont to be given to every one, but to Persons of honour. As we find the same Title given to the Roman Governours, in *Festus & Felix* Act. 24. 24 and Act. 26. 25. It is the same word that is used in the Greek for *Noble and Excellent*. This holy Evangelist does in this Book, and so in part in this Chapter, give us an Historical Relation or Account of some of the Apostolic *Paul*, his Travels & Adventures, who as may appear from the Holy Scriptures, as also [2] from other Writers, had Travelled a great way abroad in the world. *Paul* himself writing to the Romans, declares, *Rom. 15. 19.* How that *From Jerusalem*



[1]

## A Funeral SERMON

Occasioned by the DEATH of

Mr. JOSEPH GREEN,

Late Pastor of the Church in *Salem-Village*,

Who Dyed *Novemb. 26, 1715.* Aged Forty Years  
and Two Days.

ACTS XX. 38.

*Sorrowing most of all for the words which he spake, that they should see his face no more.—*

The holy Evangelist *Luke* (who on good grounds for it) is thought by Interpreters to have written this Book of the Acts of the Apostles, as may be gathered from what is said, *Act. I. I.* Where he speaks of a *former Treatise* which he had written and dedicated to the most excellent *Theophilus*, who was doubtless a very Eminent, Honourable Person; in as much as such a Title was not wont to be given to every one, but to Persons of honour. As we find the same Title given to the Roman Governours, to *Festus & Felix Act. 24. 3. and Act. 26. 25.* It is the same word that is used in the Greek for *Noble and Excellent.* This holy Evangelist does in this Book, and so in part in this Chapter, give us an Historical Relation or Account of some of the Apostle *Paul* his Travels & Adventures, who as may appear from the Holy Scriptures, as also [2] from other Writers, had Travelled a great way abroad in the world. *Paul* himself writing to the Romans, declares, *Rom. 15. 19.* How that *From Jerusa-*





*lem round about unto Illyricum, he had fully preached the Gospel of Christ.* And upon what account this Apostle Travelled so far Abroad in the World the Holy Scriptures do plentifully inform us. It was not to see Fashions or to satisfy Curiosity, that he might see, and hear, and be able to tell New and Strange things; as those we read of, in *Act. 17. 21.* That spent their whole time after such a sort. It was not upon the account of Trade or Traffick, to get any Worldly gain, or to raise his Fortune (if we may so speak) in the World: It was not to gain such Accomplishments as might give him a good Commend in the sight of Men; but it was upon a far more Noble design, *viz.* To promote the Gospel of the Everlasting GOD, to further and promote the Salvation of the Souls of Men, to advance and enlarge the Empire and Dominions of his great Lord & Master in the World.

Upon this Noble design it was, that this and the other Apostles of our Lord and Saviour went up and down the World, from one Nation and Country and Kingdom to another, into all the World, to the Ends of the Earth, according to the Commission given them: *Mark 16. 15. Go ye into all the World and preach the Gospel to every Creature.* i. e. Humane Creature. And upon this account it was that this Apostle of the Gentiles, together with the rest of the Apostles, did take such indefatigable pains, and suffer so many hard and grievous things as they did: What perils and dangers this Man of God was exposed unto upon this account, we may see, *2 Cor. 11. 24, 25, 26, 27. Of the Jews five times received I Forty Stripes save one: Thrice was I beaten with rods.* And so [3] *In perils by Land, in perils by Sea, in perils among false Brethren.* What hunger and cold and nakedness, and yet all this did not move him; *Neither did he count his life dear to him, so that he might finish his course with Joy, and the Ministry which he had received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the Gospel of the Grace of God,* as he tells us, in *Acts 20. 24.* As Satan the grand Enemy of the Souls of Men spares no pains for hurt and mischief, *Job 1. 7.* And upon what account Satan walks to and fro thro' the Earth, we are told, *1 Pet. 5. 8. He goes up and down seeking whom he may*



*devour.* As Satan has his emissaries that he sends up and down in the World that do compass Sea and Land for hurt to the Souls of Men; So the Apostles of Christ according to the Commission they had received went to the ends of the Earth Preaching the Gospel of Christ: Rom. 10. 18. *Their Sound went into all the Earth, and their words to the ends of the World.*

In this Chapter we have an account of some of *Paul's* Travels from one Place and Country to another Preaching the Gospel of Christ wherever he came, as also Administring the Lords Supper, v. 7. Entertaining of them with a long Sermon even till Midnight; and by reason of his long Discourse, there was a certain Man one of his hearers, *Eurichus* by Name, that fell asleep, and fell out at a Window and was taken up not only for one Dead in the account of those that saw him, but really so, although upon the Apostles Embracing of him, and Prayers to God for him, his Soul came into him again, to the great joy and comfort of them all, v. 9, 10, 11, 12. From v. 13 to 17. We have a yet further account of this Apostles Travels, and from thence to the end of the Chapter, we have an account of his committing Gods flocks to the Elders of *Ephesus*, v. 17. Unto whom he appeals, as to his pains, dili[4]gence and faithfulness in Preaching the Gospel to them, from v. 18 to 28. He relates to them after what manner he had behaved himself among them, *Serving the Lord with all Humility of Mind, and with many Tears and Temptations*, v. 19, 20. And how he had kept back nothing that was profitable for them to hear of and be acquainted with; and withal signifies to them, v. 25. That he was now about to leave them, and that they should see his Face no more, v. 28. He leaves a solemn charge with the Elders of *Ephesus* to Feed the Flock of God over which the Holy Ghost had made them overseers, & which he had purchased with his own blood: As also he warns them against false Teachers, and Wolves, as he calls them, that were like to arise after his departure from them, v. 31. Tells them how that he had been for Three Years together with them Preaching the Gospel of Christ: And so, v. 32, commends them to the Grace of God, to the great Shepherd and Bishop of the Souls; and withal tells them that he





had not sought his own interest, or worldly gain in what he had done, *v. 33.* How that he had not coveted any Man his Silver or Gold, or Apparel; and that his own hands had ministered to his necessities, and so takes his leave of them, praying with and for them; who being very much affected with the thoughts of his leaving of them, did express their fervent love to him after such a sort, as we may see, *v. 37. They all wept sore, and fell on his neck and kissed him.* Such kind of greetings we read of in old time, at the Meeting or Parting of dear Friends: As we see, *Gen. 33. 4. Jacob and Esau* had such expressions of Love to each other. So, *Gen. 45. 14, 15.* It is said, *That Joseph fell on his Brother Benjamins neck and wept,* and likewise, *Benjamin wept upon his neck.* And so, *Gen. 46. 29. Jacob* and his Son *Joseph* at their Meeting had the like expressions of Love and Affection; it is said, *That he [5] fell on his neck and wept on his neck a good while.* So far was this Apostle gotten into the Affections of those to whom he had Preached the Gospel, that they could not part with him without such expressions of endearment to him.

The words of our Text have a special reference to what this Apostle had been speaking to them, in *v. 25.* Where if we look back we may find he had been telling of them, That he knew that they amongst whom he had been Preaching the Kingdom of God should *see his Face no more;* This was that which so much affected and afflicted them; this was the ground of their Sorrow and Mourning at this time, in as much as he was very dear to them, was gotten a great way into their books (as we say sometimes) he had a great deal of room in their hearts and affections. He had been a great Instrument in the hands of Christ to gain them to the faith in Christ; he had made known the whole Counsel of God to them, as he tells them, *v. 26, 27.* And so whatever became of them, he look'd on himself as pure from the blood of all men. He had not concealed the words of the Holy One; he had kept back nothing that was profitable for them, and so no doubt had been the happy Instrument of converting many of them: As also of Edifying of them; he set them in the way of Salvation, and became a Spiritual Father to them; *had begotten them through the Gospel,*

*his Sorrow is the same with this in our Text*



as he tells the *Corinthians*, 1 *Cor.* 4. 15. That altho' they might have Ten Thousand instructors in Christ, yet they had not many Fathers, in as much as he had begotten them thro' the Gospel; and upon this account he was very dear to them, and were exceeding loath to part with him. And so it is said in the close of our Text, *that they accompanied him to the Ship*, to see him on board; and no doubt but when he was sailing away from them, when they weighed Anchor and set Sail, they [6] did (may we not so imagine) look after him with all the Eyes they had, and so long as the Vessel was within sight: as dear Friends will do sometimes, when parting with such as be very dear to them, and going beyond Sea.

We may Note Two Things in our Text before we come to the Doctrine. As (1) *Their Sorrow and the greatness of their Sorrow.* And, (2) *The Grounds or Occasion of this their Sorrow.*

First. Their Sorrow. *Sorrowing most of all.* The Greek word (*O duromeroi*), signifys as some have noted, The pains and pangs of a Woman in Travail; or such Sorrow as Women have at such an hour, as our Saviour speaks: Joh. 16. 21. *A Woman when she is in travail hath sorrow because her hour is come.* Although the Sorrow soon vanisheth and is swallowed up in the joy that follows upon it, *that a man is born into the world.* And so the word is used to signify any vehement grief upon any sorrowful occasion. And so the same word is used, *Rom.* 9. 1, 2. where this Apostle takes occasion to speak of the greatness of his grief and sorrow on the account of his own Nation, *i. e.* the Jews, in as much as he was one of them, *An Hebrew of the Hebrews, of the Tribe of Benjamin*: and he thinks of the Rejection of that People, *v.* 4, 5. *To whom pertained the Adoption, the Covenant, the giving of the Law, and the Promises, and of whom Christ came who is over all God blessed for ever more*: To think of their being cut off and cast away was a very grievous and bitter thing to him: upon which account he speaks as he does, that he had great Sorrow and continual heaviness in his heart, and could be ready *to wish himself accursed from Christ for his Brethren and Kinsman according to the flesh.* The word there used for his Sorrow is the same with this in our Text.





[7] Secondly. We may note the grounds or occasion of this their great Sorrow: and that was, for what he had said in v. 25th. of this Chapter, *That they should see his face no more:* and now when they come to see it was like to be so indeed, and that he was now going away from them; if he had been going away from them for but a little while, and but a little way, and then come to them again, they could (no doubt) have born it better, could have more easily have parted with him; but to think that they should never see his Face any more in this World: and considering withal how, under God, he had been the great Instrument of furthering the Salvation of their Souls, by Instructing of them in the Knowledge of the only True God and Jesus Christ, *whom to know is Eternal Life*, as in Joh. 17. 3. No doubt but his carriage and behaviour amongst them, as a Man, had been very amiable and obliging, since the Christian Religion teaches Men so to carry and behave themselves towards all amongst whom they do converse; and so upon that account might have a great love to him, and be loath to part with him; but withal considering that he was the Man to whom, under God, they might nextly stand indebted and beholding for their Christian hope; their hope of Eternal Life and Blessedness, it was this, no doubt, that did so much indear him to them, so that it was a very sore and grievous, yea a killing thought to them to think of it, that they were never like to see him any more. Whether this Apostle spake what he had spoken as to this matter, that he knew that they should see his Face no more, as only his own guess or conjecture, as some have been ready to take it so; or whether he spake it from a Prophetick Spirit, and so did never see them again, is not Material for us to inquire into at this present. But so he had said and so they took it, and now the [8] parting time was come: how great Sorrow had filled their hearts, Joh. 16. 5, 6. As Christ said to His Disciples when he had been telling them, *That in a little more and he should go away from them;* upon that account it is said, *That sorrow had filled their hearts.* Thus the Apostle being now about to leave them, and they never expecting to see him again, v. 37. *They all wept sore, and fell on his neck and kissed him, sorrowing most of all on that score, That they should*



*see his face no more.* As it is said of *Jacob*, when his Sons were carrying of him to his Grave to bury him in the Land of Canaan, according to the charge which he had given them, and when a great number of the Egyptians accompany them on that occasion, it was a very great Funeral, *Gen.* 50. 10, 11. When they came to the Treshing floor of Atad, it is said, *they mourned with a very great and sore lamentation.* Whereupon that Place was called from that time *Abel-mizraim*, i. e. the Mourning of the Egyptians. So at this time there was a very sore and grievous lamentation on the account here mentioned. And so the Doctrine from the words before us may be to this purpose; in which Doctrine I would have it noted, that I have some reference to the Context or Coherence of the words of the Text.

## DOCTRINE.

*That the departure or removal of a Minister of the Gospel by Death, or otherwise, from a People amongst whom for some time he hath laboured in the work of the Ministry to good Acceptance, and with good Success; but now no more to be seen or heard amongst them; may well be look'd upon as just ground of great Mourning and Lamentation to such a People.*

[9] Such was the case of this People at this time: this Apostle had been labouring amongst them for some Years, as he himself speaks, *v.* 31. For three Years he had been taking pains with them in the Ministry, and had not ceased to warn them Night and Day with Tears. His labour and pains had not been in vain, it had been to good purpose and to good acceptance: and with good Success, he had approved himself faithful to their Souls, in as much as he had not shunned to declare to them the whole Counsel of God so far as was needful for their Salvation. And since the Apostles were not confined or limited to any one City, Town or Country; as Ministers of the Gospel now-a-days ordinarily are; the whole World was their Bounds and Diocess. This Apostle had planted the Gospel amongst this People, and had the like to do elsewhere in the World, so that he could now tarry no longer with them, and upon this it was that





there was such sorrow and lamentation among them. There be Three Particulars or Propositions contained in this Doctrine, and under which Three heads I would comprehend what is to be offered by way of Explication of the Doctrine. As,

PROP. I. *That there is a Twofold departure or removal of a Minister of the Gospel from his People, as by Death, or otherwise, when such depart into some other part of the World, or into some other part of the Country, where they have lived for some time.*

First. *There is a departure or removal of such by Death.* Ministers of the Gospel be Mortal as well as other Men, and their turn must come to dy as well as others: As they be subject to sinful Infirmities and Passions with others, so they be subject to natural Infirmities; they are Poor, Weak, *Earthen Vessels*, [10] 2 Cor. 4. 7. The rich Treasure of the Gospel God has seen good to put it into Earthen Vessels, such be liable to be broken to pieces by Sickness and Diseases, as well as others. Although it be one qualification of a Bishop, or Minister of the Gospel, *that he be no given to much Wine.* i. e. To drink too deep, yet their bodily infirmities sometimes call for some such kind of refreshing; as *Paul* advises *Timothy*, 1. Tim. 5. 23. *To drink no longer water, but to use a little wine for his stomachs sake and thine often Infirmities.*

But this was not the case at this time, the Apostle was not about to dy and depart this Life at this time our Text had reference unto, although he and so the rest of the Apostles died afterwards, all of them; however there was a report went abroad concerning the Apostle *John*, as if he should not dy but continue on the Earth till Christ his second Coming, but without any good ground for it, as we may see, *Joh. 21. 21, 22, 23.* Our Saviour had been checking the Apostle *Peter* his curiosity concerning the Apostle *John*, what should become of him, and what kind of Death he should dy, to whom Christ replied. *If I will that he tarry till I come what is that to thee.* This Apostle speaks in 2 Tim. 4. 6. *Of the time of his departure being at hand:* that is, when he should lay down his life, as he speaks, *Phil. 1. 23.* Of his desire to depart this life and to be with Christ. The



faithful Prophets of God of old were Mortal Men: Zech. 1. 5. *Your Fathers where are they? and the Prophets do they live for ever?* And so it is said, Joh. 8. 52. *Abraham is dead and the Prophets are dead.* Such a departure as this and of such worthies is much to be lamented: As it is said of *Samuel*, that he had been a worthy Minister of God for good unto Israel in his day, and when he died, *All Israel lamented him*, as in 1 Sam. 25. 1. *And Samuel died and all the Israelites were gathered together and lamented him.*

[11] Secondly. *There is a departure or removal of a Minister of the Gospel from his People when upon some weighty reasons for it, he removes into some other Parts of the World, or into some other Place more or less remote in the same Country where he lived aforetime.* Such a removal or departure as this has a shadow and image of Death. When friends leave their friends, and remove into some other part of the World, such a departure is many times very affecting and afflicting, and is attended with a great deal of sorrow. And this was the Apostles case at this time, and the case of this People, altho' he was not as yet leaving the World, yet he was leaving those amongst whom he had been for some considerable time. There have been instances in this Land of very worthy Ministers of the Gospel that for many Years they had laboured in the Ministry, and had been greatly beloved of their People, and when the Providence of God has been calling of them to a removal else where, it has been very hardly taken, and accounted matter of great Lamentation. Such was the removal of Mr. *Norton* of famous Memory, from the Town of *Ipswich* to *Boston*, which if I have not been mis-informed, was very grievous to many if not most or all that had been his hearers there; and it was, as I have been told, so grievous to some that it was thought to have been a means to shorten their days in this World. And, so I have also heard that some of worthy Ministers that removed from *Great Britain* to this Country when it was first Planted by our Fathers, that many of those that had been of their hearers, and had lived under their Ministry in *England*, had so great a love to them, that they followed them Three thousand Miles into





this Land, that so they might live and dye under their Ministry. [12] PROP. II. *That there are such Ministers of the Gospel sometimes to be found, as have laboured amongst their People in the Ministry for sundry Years together, and to good acceptance.* Altho' the case hath been sometimes otherwise, there are such to be found as have laboured in the Ministry among their People for Twenty, Thirty, Forty, and more Years together, and to very great and good acceptance; have been great and rich blessing to their People all the while. Your Minister whom God has lately taken from you, has laboured in the Ministry Sixteen Years, and to good acceptance, as we that are your Neighbours have been very sensible of, according to what we have heard and observed. This Apostle *Paul* had been but Three Years amongst those that were at this time Lamenting his departure from them, as we may see, *Act. 20. 31.* Altho' there might be some wherever he came that were his Enemies and sought his harm, as there were those that loved him intirely, that loved the very ground that he went upon, yet there were some others that sought his Life, and would have torn him Limb from Limb if they could, and had not the good hand of Heaven prevented them; and that on the account of the Doctrine which he Preached. See *Act. 24. 5* How was he termed by *Tertullus* the Orator, as if he had been such a Pestilent fellow, that he was not fit to live any longer: and he was in great danger of being torn in pieces. *Act. 23. 12, 13.* Gives us an account of a Pack of villains that had plotted together and vowed his Death, and had laid themselves under a Curse, that they would neither eat or drink until they had his blood. And so, *Act. 13. 44, 45.* What contradiction did he meet withal at the hands of some that were so far from receiving his Doctrine, that they blasphemed? How was he Ridi-[13] culed and spoken of by those of the University at Athens? *Act. 17. 18.* The *Philosophers* and *Epicureans* stile him no better than a Babler, or a base Fellow, when indeed he was such a one as is said of those worthy Martyrs, *Heb. 11. 38.* *Of whom the World was not worthy,* and yet was he spoken of as if he were not worthy to live.



And where is the Minister of the Gospel to be found, but there be some or others of his hearers that cannot give him a good word: will have something or other to say against him, and will be ready to oppose him in every thing that might make most for his comfort, tho' he be never so deserving. How dear was the Apostle *Paul* to the *Galatians*, whom he had been instrumental to gain to the faith in Christ? As the Apostle himself witnesseth of them, *Gal.* 4. 13, 14, 15, 16. He there speaks how they had been ready to receive him even as an Angel of God, yea as Christ Jesus, and so dear was he to them that they could have been ready, (if that would have proved any kindness to him) have plucked out their own Eyes and given them to him: And no doubt but they were as dear to him as he speaks of the *Thessalonians*, 1 *Thes.* 2. 8. Were so dear to him that he was ready not only to impart the Gospel to them, but his own Soul also. But such as be very dear to Men at one time, may sometimes very suddenly and without any just cause or reason for it, become the objects of their greatest hatred; so fickle and mutable be Men, and sometimes good Men too, that altho' we may be so dear to them, that they would be ready to pluck out their Eyes, and give them to us, yet in a very little while, and it may be for no other cause in the World but only plain dealing with them, they will be ready to pluck out our Eyes. Did not this Apostle find it so amongst the *Galatians*, as in the Text but now cited; *Am I therefore become your Enemy, because I tell you the truth?*

[14] PROP. III. *That such Ministers of the Gospel as have thus for some time Laboured amongst a People, and to good acceptance; it must needs be matter of great Mourning and Lamentation when the time comes that such depart or remove from them by Death, or otherwise.*

*Object.* But what Reason is there for it that it should be so? What be Ministers better than other Men, in as much as they have their sinful failings as well as other Men, be subject to like passions with others, and are but Men at the best? Is not the deaths of other Men, of good Men to be lamented, as well as theirs?





Ans. 1. *It must be granted that the Death of all good and gracious Persons is to be lamented.* Isai. 57. 1. When Righteous ones dye and be taken away from the evil to come, it is to be lamented. Psal. 116. 15. *Precious in the sight of the Lord is the Death of his Saints.* When the godly man ceaseth, and the faithful fail from among the Children of Men. But yet by how much the more useful and serviceable any have been in Church and Commonwealth, so much the more is the Death of such to be lamented: As the Men of Israel said of *David*, 2 Sam. 18. 3. That he *was worth ten thousand of them.* The welfare and good of a People is sometimes more depending, under God, on the life of some one Man than many hundreds, yea thousands of some others. As *Elisha* said of *Elijah* when going up into Heaven, 2 King. 2. 12. *He cryed, my Father, my Father, the Chariots of Israel, and the Horse-men thereof.* When *Moses* and *Joshua* and some few more Pious worthies, their heads were laid, what a sad turn was there amongst that People for the worse. Judg. 20. 10. *Then there arose another Generation after them which knew not the Lord, nor the works which he had done for Israel.*

[15] 2. *It must also be granted that there are such Ministers of the Gospel sometimes to be found as are a shame and scandal to the Ministry;* altho' they have great gifts and parts (it may be) so that they can Pray well and Preach well, and none have any thing to object against them, so long as they are in the Pulpit; but yet their Conversation is not agreeable thereto: they are vicious and scandalous in their Conversation; are it may be Pot-companions, keep sorry Company, set bad Examples, and it may be when there happens to be any difference among their People, will take in with a Party, and so blow up strife and contention, instead of putting a stop to it, will bring wood and fuel to increase the fire, rather than water to put it out, and are woefully imprudent: When such are removed by Death, or by Councils called for that end, the removal of such from their People, is that which is so far from being matter of Lamentation, that it is that which is to be desired. As it is noted of a wicked king in Israel, 2 Chron. 20. 20. King Jehoram,



it is said, *When he died he departed without being desired.* Altho' it is matter of great Lamentation that there should be such kind of Ministers as I am now speaking of: There has been instances in our Land of this nature, Councils have been called, and for that end to remove such kind of Persons, and to give them a dismissal from any farther Service in the work of the Ministry: and what else is to be done with such kind of Persons? When those that should be as the Salt of the Earth to help to season such a mongst whom they live, when such have lost their savour, *Mat. 5. 13.* What remains then but that they be cast out and trodden under foot of Men. But your Minister was none of these, was another sort of a Man. So that notwithstanding what might be objected to the contrary, it may appear that the departure or removal [16] of a Minister of the Gospel (that is a Minister indeed and such an one as our Text and Doctrine speaks of) from his People, is matter of Mourning and Lamentation, and that for these Three Reasons among others that might be given.

Reas. 1. *Because Ministers stand charged with the care of Souls, the most rich and valuable treasure on Earth:* and if they approve themselves faithful in the discharge of the great trust committed to them. As this Apostle was able to say, *Act. 20. 26, 27. That he had made known the whole counsel of God to them, and had kept himself pure from the blood of all men.* Such are said to watch for the Souls of Men, *1 Heb. 13. 17. i. e.* to save them, to further and promote what in them lyes the Salvation of Souls. Physicians stand charged with the Bodies of Men: Lawyers with their Estates, but Ministers with the *Souls* of Men, which is by far the most rich and valuable treasure. *Mat. 16. 26. What shall a man give in exchange for his Soul?* Such Ministers then as have been faithful to the Souls under their watch and charge, have been true to their Trust; and withal whose Labours and Endeavours God hath been pleased to own and bless for the good of the Souls under their watch; such must needs be dear to them whose Spiritual Children they are: Such as have been instructed, awakened, warned and edified by their Ministry cannot but very naturally incline to have a high esteem of them and love them:





As such Ministers cannot but rejoyce on the behalf of such to whom God has owned and blest their Ministry for saving good and benefit. As this great Apostle of the Gentiles glories on the account of the Thessalonians, inasmuch as God had owned and honoured him in his being Instrumental to gain them to the faith in Christ, 1 Thes. 2. 19, 20. *Ye are our glory and joy.* So such as have been savingly wrought upon by their Ministry, cannot but [17] love and honour them as their ghostly Fathers, inasmuch as Spiritual Relations outdoes and exceeds Natural Relations, as our Saviour speaks, Mat. 12. ult. *He that does the will of my Father, he is my Brother and Sister and Mother:* As our love to Christ who has done so much for us, must be Superiour to our love to any Creature, to Father or Mother, or our own Life: Mat. 10. 37. *He that loveth Father or Mother more than me is not worthy of me.* So such whom Christ has been pleased to make serviceable for the furtherance of our Regeneration, our Spiritual Birth, our being born of God. If we are more indebted to God for our Spiritual than our Natural Birth: for to what purpose would it be to be born into the World, if not born again, as our Saviour told *Nicodemus*, Joh. 3. 3. And what did Christ say of the man that should betray Him? Mat. 26-24. *It had been good for that man if he had never been born.* Such Ministers then may well be look'd upon as (under God) the breath of their Nostrils, as *Lam.* 4. 20. If King *Josiah* was the Person there intended (as some think) what great Lamentation was then for him on the account of his Death, who was slain by the Sword of *Pharaoh-necho.* 2 Chron. 25. 25. *Jeremiah lamented for Josiah, and 'tis said that their singing men and singing women spake of him in their lamentations to this day.*

Reas. 2. *Because Ministers that are Pious, Prudent, Peaceable, may do and will do what in them lyes towards the promoting of Peace and Quietness among their People.* Sometimes by preventing Law-suits, Brother going to Law with Brother, as the Apostle *Paul* speaks, 1 Cor. 6. 1, 2. Who was a great Enemy to Christians contending one with another in the Law, v. 7. tells them, *That there was utterly a fault among them in their being so ready to take one*



*another by the throat, to contend in Law; why do ye not rather suffer wrong, and be defrauded, rather than take [18] such a course.* Ministers that are worthy of the Name of Ministers of the Gospel of Christ, will endeavour what in them lyes to heal breaches that there may happen to be sometimes amongst their People, to reconcile Persons and Families at variance: It is not only the work and business of Ministers to endeavour the reconciling of God and Man, but also to reconcile Men to one Another. And so your Minister hath done well and worthily on this account, as I have heard, and your Selves be Witnesses. Mat. 5. 9. *Blessed are the Peace-makers, they shall be called the Children of God.*

Reas. 3. *Because of the sad and uncomfortable consequents often times of the Departure or Removal of Ministers from their People by Death, or otherwise.* Not only in regard of the charge and expence which such a People be unavoidably put upon, towards the Settlement of another to succeed and stand up in the room of such as be taken away from them, which is very considerable: but worse than all, that such a People sometimes will fall a differing and contending about another to fill up the vacancy: Some will be for one and some for another, and it may be some for none at all; and for want of a Spirit of Love and Condescension one to another, the contention of such a People becomes very uncomfortable, and they remain (it may be) a long while before another Minister be Settled among them.

*Object 2.* But methinks I hear some of you ready to reason within your selves, after this sort: *What does this Preacher mean? We hope you dont compare Ministers of the Gospel that are in these days to the Apostle Paul, and so to the Apostles of our Lord and Saviour: in as much as they were great Men, and on sundry accounts not now in this Age of the World to be paralel'd?*

[19] As, 1. *Their Call and Commission to Preach the Gospel was immediately from Heaven:* Were not called to Preach the Gospel by Men or as Ministers now a-days are; as this Apostle tells the Galatians, Chap. 1. v. 1. *Paul an Apostle, not of men nor by men, but by Jesus*





*Christ and God the Father.* And so the rest of the Apostles they had their Commission immediately from Christ: As Mark 16. 15. *Go into all the World and Preach the Gospel to every Creature.* They did not tarry from going to Preach to this or that People till they were sent for, or until they were Voted into such Service by a majority of Votes or Voices, as is the case with Ministers of the Gospel in our days.

2. *The Apostles had the gift of Miracles, together with their Commission to Preach Jesus Christ:* They had power to heal all manner of Sicknesses and Diseases, and to cast out Devils. Mark 16. 17, 18. *In my Name shall ye cast out Devils, and speak with new tongues, shall take up Serpents,* and have no hurt by them; and if they should chance to drink Poison it should not hurt them. Act. 16. 18. We read of *Paul* commanding the Devil out of a certain Damsel, in the Name of Jesus Christ. Christ gave them authority over all Devils; but Ministers of the Gospel in our days may not pretend to any such gift or power.

3. *The Apostles of Christ had wonderful success attending their Ministry.* We read in Acts 2. of some thousands converted on the Apostle *Peters* Sermon to them. And how many thousands was this Apostle *Paul* instrumental of gaining to the faith in Christ: but where is the Minister of the Gospel to be found that can glory of any such success of their Labours?

4. *The Apostles had large Limits, were not confined to this or that Town or Plantation;* as Ministers of the Gospel in our dayes are, but the whole World was their charge; they could Preach the Gospel and Ad [20] minister the Sacraments, and Censures wherever they came with authority, with only asking the consent of the Fraternity their power was derived immediately from Heaven, and were not beholden to Men for it.

Ans. *Although Ministers of the Gospel now a-days cannot pretend to any such immediate Call from Heaven:* have not the gift of Miracles, may not pretend to cast out Devils, or to heal Diseases in such a way as the Apostles did; may not pretend to such ample authority and large limits as the Apostles had, but are ordinarily confined to a Certain Town



or Plantation, as to the exercise of their Ministerial Power; and have not such extraordinary success attending their Ministerial Labours; may not pretend to any immediate infallible inspiration, or to vision and revelations, as this Apostle had *2 Cor. 12. 17*. Had been honoured with abundance of revelation and vision; caught up into the third Heavens, where he saw and heard such things as no humane words could utter: Yet notwithstanding all this, Ministers of the Gospel in our days are Authorized to their Work and Service by the same Power that gave Commission to the Apostles; and the Work and Service which they are sent upon and devoted unto is the same with that of the Apostles, to Preach the Gospel and the word of God; the Gospel of Christ which they preach is the same which they Preached. As also Ministers of the Gospel that be now mediately called to the work of the Ministry, have the same Promise of Christ His Presence with them in their work. *Mat. 28. 18. Lo, I am with you always to the end of the World*; Which of necessity must include all Ministers of the Gospel that succeed in the room of the Apostles, those extraordinary Ministers of Christ, since they were not to continue to the Worlds end: As also the Souls of Men are of as great worth [21] and value now as then, but it is the same Authority to which Ministers of the Gospel now are accountable, as in the dayes of the Apostles. Thus I have endeavoured to explain and prove my Doctrine; and so I come now to make some Improvement of it.

#### APPLICATION

First. See then from hence what deep cause of Mourning and Lamentation you in this Plantation have at this day, in regard of the breach which God has lately made among you, in taking away your head, your Pious, Prudent, Peaceable and Faithful Minister and Pastor, who has Served you, and Laboured amongst you in the Ministry, and to good acceptance, for Eighteen Years together; in whose time you have enjoy'd a great deal of Peace and quietness; but now he is removed and departed from you and gone, and his face you must see no more; neither in this House, or Desk, where I





now stand; nor any were else in this World. He is not only removed from you to some other Place or People in this World, but is fallen into a deep, a dead sleep, and out of which he is not likely to awake until the Heavens be no more: As it is in Job 14. 12. *Man that lyes down in the Grave shall not awake out of his sleep until the heavens be no more.* And so in Job 7. 8, 9, 10. *The Eye of him that has seen me shall see me no more;* he shall return no more to his House or Family, to his Flock and People: No more therefore may you speak in the bitterness of your Souls, as King *Hezekiah* bemoaned himself when he had a Message, a Writ of Death sent him, Isai. 38. 10, 11, 12. *I shall see man no more with the Inhabitants of the World.* And that which aggravates the breach which God has made among you, is, That he hath been taken away in his Prime, in the midst of his Days. Not only [22] bloody and deceitful Men, as the Psalmist speaks, *Psal. 55. 23.* but sometimes Merciful and Upright Men shall not live out half their dayes; which according to the ordinary course of nature such might have lived: and if God will have it to be so, What has any Man to say against it? there is no striving with God who giveth not account of any of His doings to the Children of Men; as in *Job. 33. 13.* The Family which he belonged unto was very considerable, for the Number of them, as well as otherwise, yet be they all of them in a manner gone, but two of them left; the holy and spotless Providence of God is sometimes very awful on this account to some Families, in cutting short the dayes of most of them. But what shall we say? God is unaccountable in His doings to the Children of Men. There is a twofold improvement that I would make of this Matter. (1) *With respect to Ministers of the Gospel.* And (2) *With respect to their People.*

First. *With respect to Ministers of the Gospel.* If the case be so that Ministers are as frail and mortal, and must dye as well as other Men, are poor weak Earthen Vessels, as our experience teacheth us.

Then.

1. *Let all such Improve this to put them upon diligence and faithfulness in the Work and Service which their*



*great Lord and Master hath call'd them unto :* And to carry it so towards all Men, and especially towards their own Hearers, that they may be well accepted of them, and so deserve their love, whether they have it or no. This will be the way to live beloved and desired, and to be greatly lamented when they dy, 2 *Tim.* 2. 15. It was the Counsel of this great Apostle to *Timothy*, *To study to shew himself approved to God, a work-man that needeth not to be ashamed.* And this Ministers should see to in the first place, to manage themselves after [23] such a sort that they may be accepted of God ; as, 2 *Cor.* 5. 9. *Therefore we labour that whether present or absent, i. e. living or dying they might be accepted of God ;* and this will be the best way to be accepted of Men too, 1 *Cor.* 4. 1, 2. Ministers of the Gospel be called *Stewards*, being such as Christ be-trusts with the charge of Souls ; and it is required of *Stewards* that they be found faithful : This will afford matter of comfort when such come to dy, to remove from their People, by Death, or otherwise ; that they have in some good measure been faithful to Him that has appointed them to such a Place and People, and deserve, as we see what was the great Consolation of this Apostle when about to depart from such a People amongst whom he had Preached the Gospel for some time. *Act.* 20. 26, 27. *I take you to record that I am pure from the blood of all men :* Inasmuch as he had made known to them the whole counsel of God. *Blessed* (saith our Saviour) *is that Servant who when his Lord comes shall find so doing,* *Mat.* 24. 46. How should Ministers do what may be done by them for the good of the Souls of their Hearers without delay, since the Time is coming, and may be at the door nearer to them than they may be aware of, when they shall have no more opportunity to say or do anything for them for ever. Our great Lord and Master we find speaking to this purpose, *Joh.* 9. 3. *I must work the works of him that sent me while it is day, the night cometh wherein no man can work.* And such a Night there is coming upon us all ; both we and our Hearers be Mortal, and Death and Judgment are on their way toward us : how then should we, as in 2 *Cor.* 5. 11. knowing how dreadful the Day of Death and Judgment is like to prove to





all such of our Hearers as shall be taken away in their Sins. How should we do our utmost to persuade Men to make their Peace with God without [24] delay? Ministers stand in the place of *Watchmen*, and if they see danger at hand and don't give warning of it, what a sad account will they have to give? and how shall they deliver their own souls?

2. *Let Ministers of the Gospel improve this to do what in them lyes to Promote Peace and Quietness among their People, and to seek to please every one for their good and edification.* This Apostle was such a sort of a Man, and gives such counsel and advice to others. And in a special manner Ministers should be exemplary this way, as well as in every thing else. It is virtuous and praise worthy, Rom. 14. 17, 18. *The Kingdom of God is not in Meat and Drink, but in love, peace and joy.* And in Rom. 15. 1, 2. The Example of Christ is alledged for our imitation in this matter, who pleased not Himself, but as it is written. *The reproaches of them that reproached thee fell on me.* It is the duty of every Man, of every Christian, and in a special manner of Ministers, to endeavour, as in Rom. 12. 17. *To live peaceably with all men.* To have a care of giving any just occasion of offence. Herein did this Apostle exercise himself alwayes to have a Conscience inoffensive towards God and Man; as he tells *Felix* the Governour, *Act.* 24. 16. And so we find him speaking to the same purpose, and not only exhorting others so to carry it, but it was his own practice as well. 1 Cor. 10. 32, 33. *Give no offence to Jew or Gentile, nor the Church of God. Even as I please all men in all things; not seeking mine own profit, but the profit of many that they may be saved.* Although this Apostle was no man-pleaser, did not make it his business to please Men any further than it might stand with a good Conscience. Gal. 1. 10. *Do I seek to please Men or God?* Such as make it their business to please Men by flattering of them in their Sin, cannot therein be the Ser-[25] vants of Christ: He was no such sort of a Man. He feared none but God, was not afraid of the face of Man. He would not baulk the Truth for any Man living, would not humour Men so far as to stoop to any thing that was base and dishonourable, could stand upon his terms as well as



any Man, when there was good ground for it; as we may see, *Act. 16. 35, 36, 39.* When he had been basely handled contrary to the Laws of the Roman Empire, and the Magistrates that had been guilty of a base abuse towards him, and being sensible that they could not Answer it, sent by an Officer to let him out of Prison; but no such matter, this Apostle would not stir unless the Magistrates themselves would come and take him out, and so they did. But yet in all lawful things, and so far as it might be for good and edification to Men, no Man living was of a more flexible Temper and more plyable, as we may see. *1. Cor. 9. 19, 20. He became all things to all men;* and could be willing to be a Servant to every one, if by any means he might save the Souls of Men, and win and gain them to the love of the Truth. *I am made all things to all men, (saith he) that I might by all means save some.* And that for the Gospel sake. He was a Man of a self-denying and condescending Spirit, who although by the Law of Christ he might challenge Maintenance wherever he went up and down the World Preaching the Gospel: As *1. Cor. 9. 16. Even so hath the Lord ordained that they which preach the Gospel should live of the Gospel.* Yet less he should hinder the progress of the Gospel of Christ in those beginning times of the Gospel, and amongst blinded and ignorant Heathen who might be ready to suspect his Doctrine for a cheat; and as if his great design in Preaching of it was to get worldly gain, and as if he sought himself more than the good others; as he speaks [26] *2. Cor. 12. 14, 15, 16.* Where he assures them that he did not look so much at the fleece as the flock, he sought not theirs, *i. e.* Their Substance or Estates, to get gain, but he sought them, *i. e.* Their Souls best good, even the Salvation of them. As the Prophet *Elisha* when he had cleansed Naaman of his Leprosy, and had a great reward offer'd for it, did not see good to take it: no doubt but he thought it might be more for the glory of God; and his own honour too as the case was to refuse it than to take it; and when his Servant Gahazi thought it was pitty that so great a cure should be wrought for such a one upon free-cost, thought to get the reward to himself in a fallacious way; but what did he get by it? *2 King. 5. 21. The Leprosy*





*of Naaman cleave to thee and thy seed for ever.*

3. *Let Ministers improve this to put them upon Endeavours to be Exemplary in their Life and Conversation, as well as Sound and Orthodox in their Doctrine.* As this Apostle writing to Titus, Chap. 2. v. 1, 7. *Exhorts him to speak and teach such things as did become sound doctrine, that the aged men be sober, grave, temperate, &c.* And not only to teach and tell others their duty, but to lead the way himself, as in v. 7. *In all things shewing thy self a pattern of good works, in doctrine shewing incorruptness, gravity, sincerity.* What does it profit, to what purpose is it tho' Ministers Preach never so well, and tell others their duty, if their practice be not agreeable thereto? What will it signify, who can credit their doctrine, if they will not practice according to it themselves; as Christ cautioned his Hearers, Mat. 23. 3. *To have a care of the Scribes and Pharises: treading in their steps; altho' he would have them observe and do according to what they taught others, but not according to what they did, in as much as they would say well, but would not do well.* It be-[27] comes Ministers to be Exemplary as to a Spirit Mortified and Crucified to the World, as *Gal. 6. 14.* Altho' Ministers have Bodies as well as Souls, and not only their own Bodies, but (for the most part) the Bodies of others to take some care of and provide for, and lay up for, as well as other Men, and so are under a necessity of taking some effectual and prudent care about the things of this Life, or else they will be worse than Infidels; as we have it, *1 Tim. 5. 8.* which holds no doubt for such as well as other Men. Ministers should see to it that they approve themselves as the Salt of the Earth, to season a corrupt and putrifying World: for as Salt is a great preservative to keep wholesome food from being tainted, so may Ministers by their good doctrine and life be very serviceable to prevent filthy and corrupt communication, and conversation amongst their People; to be sure if Ministers will sit with vain persons, as in *Psal. 26. 4.* and company with sorry persons, this will not a little encourage and imbolden others in their vain and filthy conversation. Ministers should be Exemplary as to Spiritual-mindedness; *Looking more to the things which are not seen*



*and eternal, than to things which are seen and are temporal, as in 2 Cor. 4. 18. Should have their Conversation in Heaven, Phil. 3. 20. And have a care that they do not any farther than becomes them mind Earthly things; should be exemplary for their Moderation that they dont overdoe as to their joy or sorrow, with respect to their outward state and condition in the World; if the World smile or laugh on them, not to believe it, or be overmuch taken with it; and if losses and crosses be multiply'd upon them, yet not to give too much way to grief and sorrow, but to observe the rule of the Apostle, 1 Cor. 7. 30. To rejoyce as if they rejoyced not, and to weep as if they wept not, for the fashion of this World is passing away.*

[28] Secondly. *As to your Selves who have been his dear charge.* The Improvement which you ought to make of the hand of God which has gone out against you, in taking away from you him that was the desire of your Eyes, the breath of your Nostrils: Although your selves in a particular manner have cause of Lamentation on this account; yet let me tell you that the Publick looks on this breach that is made upon you, as a breach on that also; when persons of such a Spirit, and of such Usefulness, as your Minister was, are taken away by Death, it is to be accounted matter of general Lamentation: And hereupon I must tell you that the Country about you Laments a long with you, so that you are not alone in your Lamentations on this occasion. It is but a few Weeks since there was standing in this House of God, and this Place where I now stand a *Green* Olive-tree, as the Psalmist speaks of himself, in *Psal. 52. 8.* But now it is withered away; yea it is plucked up by the roots, one part of it is rotting in the Earth, where it is only Sown, as good grain that is Sown in the Earth, in order, to its yielding much fruit, as in *Joh. 12. 24.* And such a kind of comparison we have used in *1 Cor. 15. 42, 43.* *It is sown in corruption, it shall be raised in incorruption: it is sown in dishonor, it shall be raised in glory.* (Speaking of the Resurrection of the Body:) And from which comparison we may be assured, that the Bodies of Saints laid in the Grave shall most certainly sprout and spring again a fresh, and not only be raised again at the last Day, but raised to great ad-





vantage, as Phil. 3. ult. *Who shall change our vile bodies and fashion them like to his own most glorious body.* The other and more noble part of this Tree is planted in a better soil, even on *Heavenly*; where he is now reaping the comfortable fruits and glorious reward of his pious and faithful Labours among you.

[29] I would offer you a few things by way of Counsel on this occasion, and if it be not according to the Counsel of Heaven then reject it, and trample it under your feet: And what I have now to offer you, I would do it as under the awful sense and apprehension of my own frailty and mortality, and as sensible that my own Time and Turn is coming, when I must in like manner sleep with my Fathers and Brethren in the Ministry, together with others that are gone down into the dust, and so help to make up the Congregation of the dead; as also under the awful sense of the Place where I now stand, and the occasion of my standing here at this present time. Under Six Particulars I would comprehend what I have now to leave with you.

1. *Be thankful to God for the many good and comfortable Days and Years you have had together.* Surely Eighteen Years of Peace and Quietness is worth Thanks to Heaven for it. And you that have been Instructed, Awakened, Quickened, Comforted and Edified by his Ministry, be thankful for it; tho' your loss be great now, and the thoughts of parting with one that has been your Souls friend, may be very grievous to you; such friends must be acknowledged to be our best friends, when all is done, such as, under God, have been instrumental to further and promote the good of our Souls, may well be look'd upon as our dearest friends. *Solomon* speaks of a friend *that sticketh closer than a Brother.* How dear was *David* and *Jonathan* to one another, that loved each other as their own Souls, altho' nothing of any natural Relation between them; and how did *David* lament the death of his dear *Jonathan*, 2 Sam. 1. 17, 23. *I am distressed for thee my brother Jonathan.* Altho' *David* takes in *Saul* too along with him in his Lamentations, and gives him an honourable [30] Character, calls upon the Daughters of Israel to lament over *Saul*, who clothed them with Scarlet, and put on Ornaments of Gold



on their Apparel. *Saul and Jonathan were pleasant* (said he) *in their lives, they were swifter than Eagles, they were stronger than Lions.* One would be ready to think that David had little cause to lament *Saul's* death, who had been such a Mortal Enemy to him; had hunted him like a Partridge on the Mountains, but yet *David* speaks of that which was good in him, and praise-worthy, and lets the bad alone; a good Example for Christians therein to imitate him: Nil nisi bene de mortuis.

2. *Labour to keep in Mind and Remember the good Instructions and Counsels that you have heard from his Mouth.* Let them not all dye and be buried in oblivion with him but keep them in Remembrance; as the Apostle *Peter*, 2 Pet. 1. 12. to 16 desired, that not only while he lived but afterwards they *might have such things in their Remembrance*, as he had imparted to them; and not only to retain in your Memories what you have heard from him, but to practice accordingly, that so the good seed of the Word that hath been sown by him in his life time, may now after his decease sprout again and yield fruit. Not only has he taught you by his doctrine, but also by his blameless and good conversation and example: May it not in some good measure be said of him in this respect as the Apostle *Paul* speaks of himself and others his Fellow-Labourers, 1 Thes. 2. 10, 11. *Ye your selves know after what manner we behaved our selves among you, how holily and purely and unblamably, &c.* And so far forth as he hath followed Christ, you may safely adventure to follow him; and further than so we are not to follow any Man whatever; as in 1 Cor. 11. 1. *Be ye followers of me even as I am of Christ.* It is not doubted but that he [31] has often called upon you, to mind the great concerns of your Souls; to make your Peace with God, to get into Christ and to be found in Him clothed with His Righteousness, to break off your Sins by Repentance, and turn to God without delay, to give all diligence to make your Calling and Election sure, as 2 Pet. 1. 10. No doubt but he has often told you of the absolute necessity of Regeneration, of a New-birth, Joh. 3. 3. The necessity of Holiness, of your being Sanctified, without which we can never see Heaven. When our Lord Jesus Christ was about to leave





this World and go away to Heaven, He withal adviseth His Disciples of the matter, they were full of sorrow and heaviness on that account, as we may see, *Joh. 14. 1, 2. and Chap. 16. 5, 6.* But Christ told them of the necessity of it, that it must be so or else the Comforter the Holy Ghost would not come unto them, and promised to supply His bodily Absence with His Holy Spirit. Thus (altho' not for the like reasons) may it be said of him that God hath lately taken from you, there was a necessity of it according to the determinate counsel of God concerning him, since the number of his Days and Years which God hath allotted to him were fulfilled; as it is said of the Patriarch *Jacob*, Gen. 47. 29. *The days drew nigh that Israel must die;* altho' as we usually say, *Old Men must die:* but yet, *Younger Persons may dye as well.* But we see that there is a *must* for Younger, as well as Elder Persons, when their Time is come. There is none that can retain the Spirit in the day of death, nor is there any discharge in that War: God takes away and none can hinder Him.

3. *You which have made but poor proof of his Ministry, that have profited but little by his Labours and Pains among you, in comparison of what you might have done.* Be humbled before God for your Unprofitableness under the [32] Means of Grace, and be affected with and afflicted for the Righteous Hand of Heaven in removing such an One from you, as loved you well and sought your Souls good; be humbled for your Unprofitableness, and Reason the case and Question with your selves, whether or no you have not provoked God to take him away from you in Judgment to you, for your Spiritual barrenness, and receiving the grace of God in vain, as you have done; and so after a sort you may be said to have been guilty of his Death. As *David* said when *Saul* had made such bloody work amongst the Lords Priests, in *Slaying fourscore and five Persons that did wear a linen Ephod*, 1 Sam. 22. 18, 27. How did *David* Lament it? I (said he) to *Abiather*, *Have occasioned the Death of all the Persons of thy Fathers House.* May God in Mercy to the Souls of such of you Sanctify his death to you, and make it an occasion of good to your Souls, that profited but little by him in his Life: *Judg. 16. 30.* It



is noted of *Samson*, that those of the Enemies of God, *whom he slew at his death were more than they which he slew in his life*. It would not be thought uncharitable towards any of you, as if I knew of any thing of this nature, as to the Unprofitableness of any of you under his Ministry; but I speak only my fears, lest it may have been so with too many of you. If the case should be otherwise, and no such Person to be found among you; I believe you are the only People in the Land of whom it may be so said, since in all our Congregations, more or less, no doubt but such are to be found too many of them. It cannot but be a grievous thing to such as be Ministers indeed, and that have a true love to the Souls of Men, to think they must labour in vain, and to no purpose. If he that has Laboured among you in the Ministry, and could Appeal to God that knows all things, that (in some good measure) he hath endea-[33]voured the good of your Souls: every one of you, has Life and Death set before you, the blessing and the curses; and did desire nothing more than your Conversion to God, and Salvation. If in the great Day of making up Accounts with the World of Man-kind, He that has been your Minister should be brought in as an Evidence against you. That he had often called upon you to mind the great concerns of your Souls, but you would not hear; How should the thoughts of this awaken you to a Serious consideration about the matter? Since if you perish Eternally, you are like to be found to have been the blameable causes of your own Perdition, your blood is like to be on your own heads.

4. *Endeavour to Unite and Accord, to be all of one heart and one Soul about the choice and settlement of another Minister among you.* Since you must see him no more who was your late Pastor, Condescend to one another in every thing that may be proper for you, and in order to that end, Endeavour to live in Love & Peace, if you would have the God of Love & Peace to dwell with you, and if you would approve your selves to be the Disciples of Christ indeed, as in Joh. 13. 34, 35. *Hereby shall all men know that you are my Disciples indeed, if ye love one another.* And unless you do so, you will forfeit your Name of *Saleni*, of which you are a part, and which Name signifies *Peace*,





as *Heb. 7. 2.* How excellent a thing is it for Men, for Christians, to live together in Love, as in *Psal. 133. per totum.* *Behold how good and how pleasant a thing it is for Brethren to dwell together in unity, &c.* For to such will God command His blessing, even life for evermore. The experience which you have sometime formerly had of troubles among you, things contrary to Peace and Quietness; together with your later experience of Peace & Love, cannot but greatly raise the price and value of this [34] latter, your own experience tells you, that the one excels the other, as much as Wisdom excels Folly, and as much as light excels darkness; this should sway with you to study those things that make for Peace, and where with one may edify another. As also the sad examples which have been in some other Places when they have been deprived (by death) of such Ministers as were greatly beloved of their People, and in whom they were very happy; but it may be when they have come to have another Minister settled among them, they have gotten into a way of differing and dividing, and have fallen all to pieces, and so have been a long while before they have been settled again. Such instances should be improved by you for warning lest it should be the like with your selves. And let me tell you, That if it could be imagined that any thing in this World could interrupt and disturb the rest and repose of your late Minister his Ashes now in the Grave, nothing so much as your differing and contending among your selves would do it; as the counterfeit *Samuel* said to *Saul* 1 Sam. 28. 15. *Why hast thou disquieted me to bring me up?*

5. *Let none of you say, after a diffident and distrusting manner. We shall never have such a Minister again, in whom we shall hope to live so Peaceably and Comfortably again, as we did with him whose Face we must now see no more.* The same good hand of Heaven that did raise him up, qualify and accomplish him as he was, sent him to you, united you all in him, continued you so long with and gave you so much comfort in him, and good satisfaction as you had, can do the like again: *Isai. 59. 1.* *Is the Lords hand weak and short,* that He cannot do as aforetime? And if your Sins dont stand in the way, you may have such another rich blessing for ought any of you know to the con-



trary; the great Lord of the Harvest can send forth such another faithful Labourer [35] into this part of His Harvest, that you may not be as Sheep scattered abroad and have no Shepherd; and in the way of your waiting upon Him for that end will in the greatness of His Compassions be mindful of you.

6. *Let your love to your late Pastor (who is now laid in the dust) appear in your kind, tender and compassionate regard to his afflicted, bereaved and desolate Family, which he hath left among you.* Ministers seem to be under a greater disadvantage when they die, and with respect to their Families after them, than other Men; inasmuch as when they die, all means of support for their Families which they leave behind them come to an end. What an affecting and lamentable moan did that poor Woman make (who had been a Wife to one of the Sons of the Prophets,) 2 *King.* 4. 1, 7. to the Prophet *Elisha*? her Husband was dead, and he was one of a good Character, as the Prophet himself knew, was one that feared God, and he had dyed in debt, and his Children were like to be Servants for bondmen to make payment; and she had nothing but a Pot of Oyl left her: whereupon the Man of God was (no doubt) deeply affected with her moan, and so there was a Miracle wrought for her relief and to pay her debts; by order of the Prophet the Woman sent out and borrowed Vessels not a few, and the Oyl was multiplyed after a Miraculous manner, so that she had where withal to pay her debt, and to live of the rest. Ministers ordinarily, unless they can spare and pinch something out of their Yearly Salaries (which they can badly enough do, being so short and scant, and unless they do it Notwithstanding) are like to have nothing to lay up for their Families support when they are taken away; or else they will fall under a necessity of being more intangled about the affairs of this Life than they would be willing, or is [36] convenient (indeed) that they should be, are oftentimes, it may be, forced out of their Studies, when they would be glad to have it otherwise.

Finally. *Would you all be willing to see again and meet with your Late beloved Minister, together with the rest of our dear Friends and Relations who are fallen*









[37]

## AN ELEGY

UPON

The Much Lamented DEATH

Of the Reverend,

Mr. *Joseph Green*,

Pastor of the Church of CHRIST at

*Salém Village*, who departed this Life,

*November 26, 1715. Aged Forty Years*

and Two Days.

The Second Impression.

John. XI. 35, 36. *Jesus Wept.*

*Then said the Jews, Behold how He loved him.*

In GODS House we of late did see  
A *Green*, and growing Olive Tree,  
T'was Planted by a Living Spring,  
That always made it flourishing;  
Fill'd it with Sap, and Oyly Juice,  
That Leaves, and Fruit, and Light produce.  
An holy Tree, whose very Wood  
For Temple-use was choice, and good;  
[38] Doors, Posts, and Cherubims of old,  
Were made of it, and spread with Gold,  
Adorning the most Holy Place,  
With Symbols, both of Peace, and Grace.  
But now alas, we weep to see,





An Empty Place, where stood that Tree :  
 That *Green* and lovely Tree, whose sight  
 Had bless'd our Eyes with much delight.  
 For his good Nature, and his Grace  
 Both visible were in his Face.

Had you but seen, how *Noah's* Dove  
 Was Entertain'd with Joy, and Love,  
 When it return'd with Tidings good,  
 That GOD was drying up the Flood ;  
 You might have gues'd how grateful he  
 To Mournful Souls was wont to be.  
 For like that blessed Bird, he still  
*Green Olive Leaves* brought in his Bill.  
 He dry'd up Floods of Strife, and he  
 Made Brethren dwell in Unitie.

Under His Shadow was their Seat,  
 And of his Pleasant Fruit they Eat.  
 On Joseph's head a Blessing fell,  
 And all he did, did Prosper well ;  
 For GOD was with him, and did make  
 Him bless'd, and others for his sake.  
 Indeed he was a Publick Good,  
 Unto his Flock, and Neighborhood.  
 His Presence did our Lectures grace,  
 Our Pulpits want his Pious Face ;  
 To teach us all, what Reverence  
 Is due to the Divine Presence ;  
 For his Devotion did extend,  
 From the beginning, to the end,  
 Of Praying, Singing, Hearing too ;  
 He did the most of us Out-doe.

[39] His Brethren in the Ministry  
 That joyn'd in a Society ;  
 Are broke to pieces, and are got  
 To crying, *Joseph, He is not,*  
 And are distrest for this dear Man  
 As *David* was for *Jonathan*.  
 And all the Churches in the Town  
 Lament, as if he was their Own.



Our *Joseph was a Fruitful Bough*,  
 His Vertuous Wife was Fruitful too,  
 They were a lovely, Loving Pair,  
 As most that Breath in Common Air;  
 As if one Soul had dwelt in these,  
 What pleased One, it both did please.  
 They hand in hand did alwayes go,  
 Both shunning of the Criss Cross Row.  
 They were so joyned, Heart in Heart  
 Them Death it self could hardly part.  
 With Sons, and Daughters GOD them bless'd  
*With Blessings of the Womb, and Breast.*  
 Good Knowledge which their Father brought the [m]  
 And Lessons which their Mother taught them,  
 Did Season so their Early Youth  
 With GOD's Fear, and His Saving Truth:  
 And with Good Manners; that indeed  
 Their Vertues do their Age Exceed.

GOD blessed him, and did bestow,  
 From Heaven above and Earth below,  
 Such Blessings as made good Supply  
 Unto his Numerous Family,  
 Whilst he on Earth made his abode:  
 He dying left them all with GOD.

Of such a Flock GOD will take care,  
 Though yet they young and tender are.  
*The House of Aaron He will Bless,*  
*And all that Fear him, great and less.*

[40] *The House of Joseph, he will Save,*  
 And on his Remnant Mercy have.

Surely he was a *Fruitful Bough*,  
 That fill'd his own, and GOD's House too.  
 Like Olive Plants his Children round  
 CHRIST's Table, and his own, were found.

He laid his hand unto the Plough,  
 And look'd not back but up did throw  
 The Fallow Ground; that which bore Thorns,  
 With good Fruit now the Church adorns.  
 Some Converts were; some Edify'd,  
 Communicants were multiply'd.





The holy Seed he did Baptize,  
 And as they grew up, Catechize.  
 And made such as Adult was grown,  
 GOD's Cov'nant, and the Churches, Own.  
 In CHRIST's House he did bear the Sway,  
 And taught the People to Obey;  
 Yet did not lord it by constraint,  
 But rul'd the Church with their Consent.  
 In Pastures *Green* he did them feed,  
 And unto Living Waters lead.  
 He Shepherd like, took the most care  
 Of them that Weak, and feeble were.  
 He Visited the Sick, and tryed  
 To Save their Souls, until they dyed.  
 His Doctrine, and Example taught;  
 For what he Preach'd himself he wrought:  
 And few there are that him excel  
 In Teaching or in Doing well.  
 Well Learn'd, well Lip'd, well Lif'd, was he;  
 And Eminent in all the Three.

He went into the Vineyard Young,  
 And Labour'd in it all along.  
 With Prudence, Patience, Diligence,  
 Not apt to give, nor take Offence.  
 [41] He strictly kept CHRIST's Holy Day,  
 And Squandered none of it away.  
 He Pray'd with Faith, and Fervency,  
 That GOD might hear and not deny.  
 He Sung aloud with Skill, and Zeal,  
 And Preach'd that Men might hear, and feel.  
 His Sermons they well-Studied were,  
 And of the Word the Milk Sincere.  
 He did approve himself to be  
 A Work man in GOD'S Husbandry.  
 In Planting, Watering, and in Sowing,  
 And him his Master found so doing.

Preparing for *Thanksgiving* Day,  
 From Study he was Call'd away:  
 A Chariot of Fever-fire  
 Was sent from GOD, to Call him higher



To give Him Thanks, not for a Day,  
But Constantly, for ever and aye.  
When in GOD'S House his Work was done,  
He in his Own afresh begun.  
And Clinch'd the Nail on his Death-bed,  
In Health he drove up to the head.  
For tho' in Pain he drew his Breath,  
Nothing could stop his Mouth but Death.

Summer and Winter *Green* was he,  
Most like the Noble *Olive* Tree.  
And like to it, when he was beat,  
He dropt his Fruit ripe, and Compleat:  
For under the Afflicting Rod  
He did profess his Faith in GOD;  
And did himself, and his Resign  
Unto the Will that is Divine.  
And to the Standers by declar'd  
Death did not find him Unprepar'd,  
And that for Twenty Years, or more,  
He daily had laid up in Store;

[42] Something, against his Dying Day,  
A Good Foundation so to lay,  
Yet Penitently own'd Neglects,  
And Pardon begg'd for his Defects;  
And plac'd his Confidence alone  
On CHRIST'S Deserts and not his own.  
And in the Faith, he testify'd,  
That he had Preach'd he liv'd, and dy'd.  
And thank'd the LORD he did depart  
In Peace, with Comfort in his Heart.  
And Pray'd his Deacon to Declare  
These Things to such as Absent were.  
And that he with his dying breath,  
Did Charge them to Prepare for Death,  
By Timely Penitence; and not  
Delay, till on their Death-beds got.  
Lest they at last, their folly rue;  
For Late Repentance seldom true.

His Dying Sermon held almost  
Unto his giving up the Ghost:





His Masters Work he did so Ply,  
He did but just get time to dye.

And being Dead, still speaketh he,  
Such as are Wise his Hearers be.

This is the Man that we Lament,  
Whose Life and Death for CHRIST was Spent,  
And then Triumphant to Him went.

But We, Poor we, are left behind,  
In Tears to call our Sins to Mind,  
And charge his Death upon their Score,  
He might have Liv'd one Forty more,  
Had not GOD been Provoked sore,  
We can't but Mourn he dy'd so soon,  
And that his Sun went down at Noon.  
Fatal Eclipse! for he is gone  
Just entr'd upon *Forty One*.

[43] If the bright Sun Eclipsed be,  
His Face again we quickly see:  
But this Eclipse we must deplore:  
For we shall see his Face no more.

His Relates grief I must Conceal;  
No Pen can paint what they did feel,  
Whilst they were toss'd twixt Hope, and Fear.  
Contrary Passions rend, and tear.  
When Life, and Death in Ballance lay,  
And none could tell, which would out-weigh;  
It must suffice me for to say,  
They Pray, and Weep; and Weep and Pray.  
But when they saw Deaths Scale incline  
Towards the Grave; this Tongue of Mine  
Doth Languish, and despair to tell  
The Anguish into which they fell.  
When loth to Part they did Embrace  
His Pale-lips, and his dying Face,  
As if they thought to make Repairs  
Unto his fainting Breath, with theirs;  
Or thinking, with them he must stay,  
Or they with him must go away.  
Transports of Love and Grief they keep,  
Till he *in Jesus fell Asleep*.——



But now GOD'S Will is done 'tis fit  
 You Relates do to Him Submit,  
 Spring-Tides of Grief must timely fall,  
 Or they will overwhelm you all.  
 Tis time for you to still your Cryes,  
 And to begin to dry your Eyes;  
 Not faint when GOD doth you Chastize:  
 Thousands do with you Sympathize.  
 You may not Mourn as those that have  
 No hope laid up beyond the Grave.

[44] Your *Joseph's* Dead, and gone before:  
 Your *Jesus* Lives for ever more.  
 Oh! Look to Him! for there's your Store.

We joy he Liv'd, and Dy'd, so well,  
 That we his praise with Truth can tell.

These Lines are Modest, Plain, and True.  
 And scantly give him what's his due.

I dare Appeal to them him knew.

GOD Hates a Lye, my Muse well knows,  
 Whether it be in Verse or Prose.

His praise was in the Church before,

He needed not a Gilding o'er.

By over-praising of the Dead,

Nor they, nor we are Bettered.

Poetick Raptures Scandalize,

And pass with most for learned Lies:

Whilst Others are discouraged,

And think Saints can't be Imited:

Such high Flights seem Design'd to raise

The *Poets*, not the *Person's* praise.

Whereas Plain Truth gives no Offence

And doth affect the Conscience;

To Imitation doth excite,

Unflorish'd Copies Teach to Write.

His bright Example may do good,

When it is truly Understood,

How he Convers'd the Earth upon:

But now to Heaven he is gone;

His Conversation is above

With CHRIST, who was his Life, and Love.





A Crown of Life He doth him give,  
Who faithful to the Death did Live.  
When the Chief Shepherd shall Appear,  
He will a Crown of Glory wear.

[45] The Winter will be past; the Spring  
Will put an end to Withering.  
Tho' Death a while must Intervene,  
Our LORD will raise him fresh, and *Green*,  
Such Birds will then Awake, and Sing,  
That Silenc'd were by Terroure's King.  
DEATH! Where's thy Sting the Song will be,  
O Grave! Where is thy Victory?  
Thanks be to GOD, thro' CHRIST our LORD,  
Who doth us Victory afford.  
Then our Good Mourners will revive,  
And Sing, that *Joseph is alive!*

But yet Methinks we need not stay  
For Comfort till that Blessed Day,  
Our *Joseph* he is now *Alive*;  
His Soul, his Body doth Survive.  
In Faith, and Works if we Pursue him  
Our LORD will quickly bring us to him.  
And tho' the *Green* and lovely Tree,  
Which we Lament, now Withered be.  
The living Spring where he did gain  
His Sap, and Oyl, doth yet remain.  
And by that Spring another Plant,  
May rise and may supply our want.

Trim Lamps, your Vessels fill with Oyl,  
Stay not; our Lord may come the while.  
GOD of His Mercy give us Grace,  
Behold, the Bridegroom comes Apace!



## An Epitaph.

[46] Under this *Sorry Heap of Stones*,  
 Rich Treasure lyes, *dear Joseph's Bones*;  
 From *Salem-Village*, *CHRIST* will Move  
 Them to His *Salem that's Above*.  
 When the Last Trumpet gives its Sound,  
 The Saints will Start from under Ground  
 Be Chang'd, and Mount, with one accord,  
 To Meet with their Descending LORD.

Nicholas Noyes.

*Finis.*





## TOPSFIELD STREETS AND WAYS.

BY H. FOLLANSBEE LONG.

---

The "lay outs" of the following "streets and ways" have been gathered from all the records available, and are believed by the writer to be as complete and accurate as is possible. In view of the fact that some records may have been missed we would be glad to obtain any additional information relating to Topsfield streets so that it may be printed in some later volume of the Historical Collections.

When the first settlers came, they probably passed and repassed over each others' lands,—following the Indian trails and old paths,—on foot or horse-back, and thought little of having roads. But when more settlers came and the land became divided amongst people who were perhaps not always congenial, then they asked the town to lay out roads. These roads of course were nothing like what we have today; in fact we might not call them roads at all. Without doubt the first settlers merely cut down the bushes, or any tree that might obstruct the way, though if a very large tree were encountered more than likely they went around it. After vehicles came into use there was a demand for better roads and as the times changed and conditions became better and different modes of travelling were introduced, the paths or trails began to improve, to keep pace with the new methods of travelling.



The first road surveyors were chosen at a meeting held March 2, 1676,—“John French and John Robeson are Chosen serwares for hiwas to see that they be mad pasabel as the law requires.” At this same meeting the surveyors were given the following power,—“the serwares hau power and here by are impowered to tak or destrane there fines for not attending the mending hiwaes after legall warning two shillings six pence for eueri dayes neglact thay hauing two dayes warning.” As surveyors were not chosen until 1676, there is reason to believe, from the following record, that some of the other town officers acted as surveyors, or, that the earlier elections were not recorded. At a meeting held “ye 2 march 1668 or 69,” it is recorded, “The Towne hath agreed that it shall be Leagall waring for Euery Teme or parson that is warned to hie way work by the seruaiers or there order, the seruaiers or ther order shall giue two dayes or two nights at Least warning to euerey teme and person they shall warne into hie way worke, and farder the Towne hath ordered yt any teme warned as aboue said by ye seruaiers or there order, shall refuse or niglect to atend the Townes seruies which they are thus Caled Vnto Shall pay seuene shiling for each dayes niglect as afine for ye Townes Vse, and also the parsons so warned as aboue said, and shall refuse or niglect ye seruies they are Caled to doe shall pay as afine for ye Towne Vse two shillings six pence a man for euery day niglect the which fines the seruayers shall gather Vp with out parshaliety and give in thre a Counte to ye Towne at a Towne meeting.” At meeting held March 7, 1681, “The Towne has Agreed that euerey man that is Legaly warned to Come to ye hie wayes with a teme and dos niglect to Come shall bee fined six shiling a day for euerey nicelect and euerey man that is warned to Come to worke at the hie wayes and nicelect shall pay by way of a fine two shilings and six pence pr. day so nicelecting it shall bee Countied Legall waring and if there is two dayes betwene ye day of waring and ye day of working and the Seruayeres are to goe & destraine for ye fines and giue to ye men that dos ye worke or hie other men to worke in there rome.”

It is natural that the earliest roads should be those leading from the town from which the first settlers came and the





ways leading to the mill and to the meeting-house. As the first settlers without doubt came from Ipswich it is reasonable to suppose that one of the first, if not the first road, was what is now Ipswich Street leading to Perkins Street, and then Perkins Street to Meeting House Lane. Tradition says that the first meeting-house was located, somewhere off Meeting House Lane. The Rowley Villagers (now Boxford) needed a way in which to come to meeting, so it is probable that the way followed along what is now Howlett Street, to the foot of Great Hill. Along the southern base of Great Hill an old road may be easily traced, and in all probability the road after leaving Howlett Street, followed along under the hill, to what is now Ipswich Street. From this point nothing further appears, but an old road exists back of what is commonly called the "Merriam Place," and it is quite reasonable to believe that in some way it connected with the Ipswich road. From the "Merriam Place," the road may be traced to the "Andrews Cellars," and so along to the Boxford line. This path or way from the Ipswich line to the Boxford line, must have been the first road in the town. The second way, was the continuation of Perkins Street from Meeting House Lane to Central Street, then to Maple Street, and so into Main Street. Another road ran from the Boxford line through Pond Street, Haverhill Street, Main Street and Salem Street to the Danvers town line. These roads connected Topsfield with Salem, Ipswich and Boxford, and were probably the first ways used, even before "lay outs" were made. More than likely another way left Main Street, passed along Ipswich Street, to North Street, then North and Oak Streets, to Ipswich Street again, and so along to the Ipswich line. In reading over the early deeds, constant mention is made of "a way" or "a highway" or "county road," as bounds for land decided to certain parties. From these facts it may be concluded that many early "lay outs" were made that were not recorded or were destroyed after having been recorded. Many roads which fifty or one hundred years ago were considerable thoroughfares are today in many places almost, if not quite, obliterated. Traces of old roads also appear of which no record is found of there ever having been laid out.



It may not be out of place to mention some of the old roads which are now rapidly disappearing. North Street and Oak Street were formerly used a great deal as the old way to Ipswich went along these streets. Oak Street today is used little if any. Wildes Street originally crossed what is now Boston Street and came out on North Street. This way is entirely out of use. The "ways" leading into "the Colleges" were discontinued a few years ago and for some time before they were little used. Formerly an old way left the "Androus Cellars," and came across the fields to the "Smith Cellars," and so out into Washington Street. This way was used by the Boxford people before Boxford Street was cut through. Another way came down through the "Parsonage" back of the house of Mr. A. A. Conant, and so into Washington Street. Still another way left the "Androus Cellars," and ran to the cemetery, where the first meeting-house was built and also to Washington Street, at its junction with Boxford Street. Another old way connected what is now Ipswich and Perkins Street through the woods at the right of "Manning's hill." That a way left Washington Street a short distance below its junction with Boxford Street, and passed through the pastures to the "Stanley Cellars," at the southern base of Price's hill, is shown from the following deed. Under date of December 17, 1680, John Gould transfers to Joseph Esty, "30 ac. Upland & swamp," "also grants a way from the sd land by Saml Stanlees fence & so to the highway runn or over ye foard by ye sd Gold's land towards Topsfield so as he may com to mill & meeting s<sup>d</sup> Esty to sett up fences he may come through, or doe pull downe to goe in or out at also s<sup>d</sup> Esty can drive his cattle to the common over s<sup>d</sup> Gould's lands." When the "Bradstreet house" was built in 1771, the bricks were carted over Grass hill, down the hill, and across the river at "the Hartlands." There is no record of this road that may be positively determined, but the stepping stones at the fordway may be seen today. A way passed from Boston Street to Rowley Bridge Street, back of the house of Mrs. Mary S. Batchelder, of which no record appears. Another way passed from North Street by the house of Mr. Francis C. Frame to Rowley Street.





At a town meeting held March 26, 1753, "the Town voted that the heighways and Rodes should be mended by Laying a Tax upon the Inhabitance of the Town to parfit the said work." Under date of May 23, 1753, "The Town voted that one pair of oxen and a cart should be 2 shillings pr. day for work on highways. The Town agreed that a man should have 2 shillings per day for work on highways." At the present time twenty cents an hour is paid for labor, and thirty-five cents an hour for a pair of horses. The streets were first named by a Committee appointed for that purpose December 21, 1874. On the following pages will be found in alphabetical order such information as has been obtained in relation to the history of each street in the town.

---

### ASBURY STREET.

---

The street extending from Ipswich Street to the Hamilton town line. This street was formerly known as Asbury Grove Street. It takes its name from the grove of trees at the Hamilton end of the street. This grove is used for Methodist camp-meetings and derives its name from Bishop Asbury.

This part of the town was annexed February 16, 1774, it being a part of Ipswich prior to that date. An old road is with some difficulty traced from the old main road from Topsfield to Ipswich across the "old ford way" a short distance below the present bridge, to the Lamson house, which was located here very early, but the records do not give a lay out previous to 1814. The town records under date of February 28, 1814, have a selectmen's return of the laying out of a road from "the Guide Post on the County Road near Lamson's bridge, so called, to said Lamson's House. . . . to the foot of the hill." The road was to be "two rods in width except in front of said Lamson's two dwelling houses where the said way is to remain as it now is," which seems to



indicate that an earlier lay out was made of which there is now no record in Topsfield.

January 18, 1872, the County Commissioners "straightened and windened" the street from Ipswich Street to Hamilton. This change of location in the street is not recorded in the Topsfield records.

---

### BOSTON STREET.

---

This street, more commonly called "The Turnpike," runs in a straight line through Topsfield from Ipswich town line to Danvers town line. The road was laid out by the "Newburyport Turnpike Corporation" from Newburyport to Boston, in as nearly a straight line as possible, and has always been known as the "Newburyport and Boston Turnpike," hence its name.

Work upon the "Turnpike" was begun August 23, 1803, on High Street in Newburyport. The first toll was taken at the Newbury gate, now Newburyport, on February 11, 1805. Probably no toll was taken after 1847. The Newburyport Turnpike Corporation received twenty-two hundred dollars as damages for that part of the "Turnpike" extending from the "house of Jonathan Todd in Rowley to the road leading by the house of Josiah Newhall in Lynnfield laid out by the County Commissioners as a county way," which was accepted May 10, 1849. The "Corporation" spent nearly a half of a million of dollars to complete this road. Over it the Eastern StageCompany ran its stages for a number of years.\*

---

\* See Topsfield Hist. Colls. Vol. XI, p. 1.





## BOXFORD STREET.

The street running from Washington Street to Boxford town line. January 2, 1813, a petition was presented to the Court, "that the road from Topsfield Meeting House to Boxford south parish meeting house is very narrow and in some parts circuitous." The proposed change was, "to leave the present road near Deacon John Gould's bridge and passing over land of Nathaniel Gould and Elijah Gould to the present road near Simon Gould's orchard." This change was allowed by the Court, April 13, 1813. The old road, which can be traced, even now, without much difficulty, left, what is now Washington Street, at the foot of the hill beyond the house of George W. Burnham, turning into the field at the right, and passing by the "Smith Cellars," and so along to the "Andrews Cellars," coming out on the present Boxford road near the house of Whipple Ingalls. The present road was laid out as follows: "Beginning at a large stone near the southeasterly corner of the range of stables placed westerly of the meeting house in Topsfield, from thence running North . . . to a tree near Thomas Emmerson's barn thence north . . . to a stake in land of Thomas Emerson below Elijah Averill's barn, thence south . . . to a pair of bars in land of Elijah Averill, thence north . . . in said Averill's land, thence same course, . . . to an apple tree in land of Rev. Mr. Huntington, northerly from John Gould's barn, thence south, . . . to a stake in front of Rev. Mr. Huntington's house, thence north, . . . to a stake by a stump in Elijah Gould's land, thence north, . . . to an apple tree marked in Simon Gould's land, thence north, . . . to a stake east of Joseph Smith's gate," and so along to the Boxford meeting house. This road was laid out "three rods in width," except in front of "John Gould's barn," where it was "two and one-half rods."

Under WASHINGTON STREET will be found a lay out, which was used as the old way to Boxford. That a way existed very early is shown by the following deed under date of June 8, 1663, when "Zacheus Gould yeoman conveyed to Zacheus Curtice husbandman a parcell of land . . . al-



so a highway for s<sup>d</sup> Curtice to pass from s<sup>d</sup> land to Topsfield towne on the E side of the house of Robt. Andrews."

---

### CENTRAL STREET.

---

The street which extends from Main Street to High Street. The part which runs from Main to Summer Street, has been known, at different times as, "Mechanc's Court," "Mechanic's Lane," "Mechanic's Avenue," and "Mutton Lane." The lower part of the street which extends from Maple Street to High Street was laid out October 26, 1699, when a road was laid from "Thomas Pirkinse in to ye way below Enz. Towne." This lay out included Perkins, Central and Maple Streets. This must have been an old travelled way, for in the lay out we find that after leaving the house of "Thomas Perkinsis," they followed, "ye old beaten path all ye way with trees marked on both sides till we come ouer fosters bridg."

That part of the road from Main Street to what is now Summer Street, was laid out by the selectmen, October 29, 1846, as follows;—"Beginning at the centre of the westerly post at Charles C. Brackett's front yard from thence running South . . . to a stake, by the fence by land of Hannah and Anna Perkins . . . said road to be and extend two rods in width." This lay out was accepted at a meeting held Nov. 27, 1846.

August 26, 1872 the remainder of the road was laid out as follows;—"Commencing again at a stake in the centre of the new road, leading from 'Mechanic's Court' in said Town of Topsfield, said stake being 25 feet easterly from a 'Stone Monument' at the junction of a new town way, with the afore-said new road, and at land of Peabody; thence from said centre stake south . . . through land of E. P. Peabody, E. Perkins, J. P. Towne, crossing the old 'Newburyport Turnpike,' and land of E. Perkins, to a stake in the old highway, leading to the Wenham road, said stake being near the





division line, between land of Mrs. L. and D. G. Perkins, thence . . . to a stake near the present wall of D. G. Perkins at the junction of the present old road with the highway leading to Wenham. The easterly and westerly lines of the aforesaid highway, to be 25 feet distant at right angles, and parallel to the above described centre line." This lay out was by the County Commissioners. At a meeting held September 27, 1872 it was voted to finish what is now Park and Summer Streets before January 1, 1873. At this same meeting it was also voted to extend "Mechanic's Avenue" to the new street. The County Commissioners accepted Mechanic's Court on July 1, 1874.

---

### COPPER MINE ROAD.

---

That street which runs from Rowley Bridge Street to the Middleton town line and sometimes called Middleton Road. It derives its name from the "Copper Mine" located a short distance from the junction of the two streets. This street is mentioned in the records as early as March 2, 1668 when the following is recorded:—"The Towne hath excepected William Nicklas and John Nicklas and William Hobes from hie Way worke in ye Towne apon considration thay Liue remote: and apon Condition thay mak there one hie wayes to Topsfeid Bridge nere to Joseph Towns his house." The next mention of the street is as follows:—"At a Llawfull Towne meeting 15<sup>th</sup> Noumber 1669. Jacob Townes & Joseph Townes are chosen to Lay out a highway ffrom ye Bridge ouer ye Riuer by William Townes of one pole wide to William Nicklas farme Which he Liue apon and also to William Hobes Land." Under this date we find that, "Jacob and Joseph Townes being Chosen to Lay out a highway from the Bridge ouer ye riuer by William Townes of one pole Wide to William Nicklas farme which he Liues apone and also to William Hobes haue acordingly don it."



Under date of March 4, 1689-90, we find that, "Corpll John Curtious and Joseph Towne iunr are Chosen to lay out a way from the Towne Bridge ouer the reuer through the woods to the farmes at blind hole namely the Nickallsis and thare neighbors." There is no record of this lay until January 14, 169 $\frac{1}{2}$ . The entry is as follows:—"John Curtious senr and Joseph Towne iunr we haue layde out away from Isaac Burtons to ye Bridg as foloweth: begining at ye said Burtons and so as ye way now goeth to John Robison his land: and then turning to ye right by a read oake marked on ye right and a white oake marked on ye left: and so along as ye way now goeth ouer ye old ford and so along as ye beten path now goeth by Joseph Towns house and so along ye beten path all trees marked on both sides of ye way to ye Common; and so along ye beaten path to ye bridg: we layd it out two rods wide." Under date of March 5, 170 $\frac{5}{8}$  we find that "The town agreed to free all ye Inhabitants on ye Southwest Side of Nicholls Brook from highway work on ye North East Side of said Brook for this year provided they Maintain the Bridge over s<sup>d</sup> Nichollses Brook; and the rest of the highwayes and Bridges on that side of ye sd Nichollses Brook." Another lay out is recorded May 3, "1707 or 8," when the highway was laid out "from the Bridg over ye River by Edward Putnams [now Middleton] to John Nickoles and from thence to Thomas Robinsons accordingly we have lay'd out ye said way from Thomas Robinsons as the cartway now goes to John Nickolsis house; and from John Nicholsis House as ye way now goes along by John Burton's House and so along as the cartway now goes half the way to be upon the Land of Mr Cheeversis and halfe sd way upon ye Land of Thomas Robinsons till it comes so far as the way goes upon their Lane: and so along as the way now goes to Phillip Knights House; and so on as the cartway now goes till it comes to ye River by or beyond Edward Putnams House." Under date of June 27, 1722, we find that a part of the street was altered the record being that "the Subscribers being Desired by the Neighbors of Mr John Nickols to Lay out & turn ye highway as it goes up Mr John Nicholses hill; and both Parties With the Selectmen have agreed as followeth: Begining at a White oak tree about four Rods





from the Bridge: So from ye white oak tree, two rods Sou-west and So from ye East Side of the old Road two Rods Sou-west, so as the Road Runs to a Rock by ye road Sou-west, So Running on a Strait Line on that corse to a Rock about one pole from a Great flat Rock on ye South Side of ye way and from that Rock two pole east."

### CROSS STREET.

The street extending from Hill Street to Rowley Bridge Street. This street was formerly known as the "Morgan Road" or the "Donation Road." The "Donation farm" was occupied as early as 1690, but the records do not show a lay out of the street until March 2, 1730-1, when "the town accepted of the Return of the Selectmen's Laying out a way for George Bixby from said Bixbies own Land over Israel Townes Land to the Road that Leads from Mr Jacob Townes [Hill Street] to the Town Bridge (so called) Provided that ye said Bixby shall Pay the cost that shall arise thereby." Under date of December 25, 1730, the lay out is recorded as follows: "We Laid out a Perticular, or highway for Mr George Bixby—Begining at the South Easterly corner of the Said Bixbies own Land where his now Dwelling house is so Running Straight on in the same Range of Lotts across Israel Townes Land and coming into the highway (that Leadeth from Mr Jacob Towns to ye River Bridge) by a tree Standing in ye said Israel Towns Wall and we Laid it out Two Rods wide upon the Southerly side of the Middle Range of Lotts, So called by the proprietors or Lot Layers." July 15, 1817, the entire street was laid out, the record reading as follows: "Beginning at a stake by the County road South of Rowley Bridge, so called, and by land of Benjamin Pike, thence South . . . East . . . on the dividing line of said Benjamin Pike's land and land of Daniel Bixby thence North . . . east . . . to the Northeasterly corner of said Daniel Bixby's shed, thence south . . . east . . . thence south . . . east . . . thence south . . . to a stake, thence south . . . east . . . to the County road leading to the dwelling house of Daniel



Towne, and said road is laid out two rods in width on the Easterly side of the aforesaid courses, extending the whole length of said road, over land of said Daniel Bixby, and whereas, said road is for the most part already fenced on each side thereof with a good stone wall, said fences or stone walls are to be desired and held as the true boundaries thereof nevertheless some small variation of width in some parts of said road; also allowing one year from the acceptance thereof to complete the fence." Another lay out is recorded in the year 1874. Under date of October 20, 1877, it is recorded that, "Capt Morgan agrees to widen, straighten, build and fence the southern part of the Highway called the Morgan road . . . the whole contract to be subject to the approval of the said selectmen."

### EAST STREET.

The street running from North Street to Boston Street. This street was not laid out until 1765, though in a deed under date of April 22, 1673, mention is made of a way that may have been East Street. The deed transfers a piece of property from Isaak Comings to Tobijah Perkins, and states that, "before signing it was agreed that s<sup>d</sup> Perkins should have liberty to pass with cart through Comings farm from above land towards Winthrops Hill, he not doing damage to plow ground or mowing nor leaving open bars."

At a town meeting held March 5, 1765, "The Town heard the Petition of Mr Nathaniel Low Respecting a way, and voted that the way he uses to come to meeting & go to Market through Mr Benj Woodbury's Land & through Mr Stephen Fosters land Shall be Mended by the Surveyors of highways as they mend there other way in Town for the futer, and also all the Reasonable Incumbrances Removed from s<sup>d</sup> way." Though there have probably been more recent "lay outs" of this street, the records do not show any after this date.





## GARDEN STREET.

The street which runs from Hill Street to Boston Street. So called from the fact, that when the southerly portion was laid out in 1842, it intersected a garden owned by B. W. Crowninshield. The records do not show the lay out from "the Red House" to Hill Street, though the house was standing as early as 1798. Under date of January 1, 1842, is recorded the following lay out. "Beginning at a stake by the wall at a point eight links northerly of the northeasterly side of a willow tree, standing in the westerly corner of a field of Dominick Moore, which tree is near the gate northerly of the house of said Moore; thence running south . . . east . . . over land of said Moore, and land of Asa Pingree to a stake by a wall in said Pingree's Orchard which stake is eight links northeasterly of an apple tree; thence running south . . . east . . . over land of said Pingree, and land of said Moore, to a stake standing by the northeasterly side of a bass wood tree, near the wall in land of said Moore, thence south . . . east . . . over land of said Moore, and land of Benj W. Crowninshield to a stake by the wall on the westerly side of the Newburyport Turnpike, which stake is eight rods and nine links northeasterly of the northerly abutment of a gap or passage way leading into said Crowninshields field, at a point southerly of his dwelling house, and we have laid out the said way two and a half rods in width on the southwesterly side of the above described line and parallel thereto, from the point first began at over the said Moores, Pingrees and Crowninshields land to the said Turnpike." This lay out was approved at a town meeting held March 4, 1842, by a vote of 99 for, and 62 against.

## GROVE STREET.

The street which extends from Main to Washington Street. So called from a grove of trees which at one time covered a slight eminence on the left hand side of the street about two-



thirds the way from Main to Washington Street. This street was laid out December 6, 1856, and accepted by the town at a town meeting held December 13, 1856. The lay out was as follows:—"Beginning at a stake and stones, Easterly from the East corner of Elisha A. Hoods house, distance four rods and four links to said stake on land of said Hood by the northerly side of the road leading from Topsfield to Salem; from thence on a line with said road, North . . . West . . . on land of the Newburyport Railroad Company and land of Elisha A. Hood to a stake; thence North . . . on land of said Hood and William E. Kimball to a stake, . . . thence North on land of said Hood and Kimball to a stake . . . thence North on land of said Hood to the hill on the centre line, thence . . . North . . . to a stake at the road leading to Boxford: again at a point opposite the last named . . . on the East side of the hill and road North . . . four rods to a stake . . . thence . . . North . . . to the road leading to Boxford. The said road is laid three rods wide."

### HAVERHILL STREET.

The street extending from Main Street, at the junction of Ipswich Street, to the Boxford town line. So called from the fact of its being the travelled way to Haverhill. The street was first laid out March 16, 1668-9, from "Topsfield meeting house, along vnder North East Syde of the Hill called bare Hill, along as the trees are marked, over the brooke by Ephraim Dormans House, and so along the plane called the Pine plaine; trees being marked, to the end of Bakers Pond and over the brooke at the pond end, by William Pritchetts house, as the trees are marked, Into the highway yt comes betwene Andover & Ipswich." In 1717 "At a Lawfull meeting of ye Selectmen on the third Day of Octo<sup>r</sup> 1717 we then went and Laid out a County Road from Ipswich line near y<sup>e</sup> uper End of Mr. Bakers Pond so called along as y<sup>e</sup> way now goes to Leuit Ephraim Dormans; and So on as the Road now goes to Capt. John Hows." This street was widened





June 1, 1818; ordered laid to "Bixbys Corner," June 18, 1821; and accepted July 2, 1821, by the County Commissioners. Under date of December 1, 1835, is recorded an acceptance by the County Commissioners of a lay out.

A WAY ACROSS "GALLOP'S BROOK," NEAR THE PRESENT  
WORKS OF CONNOLLY BROTHERS.

"At a Lawfull Towne meeting of the Towne of Topsfield the 7: day march 1692-3 Sargt Houey and Corpll Daniel Ridington are Chosen to lay out a highway for John Androus from his upland on the north of Ephraim Dormans land ouer the Brook to the upland ou the west—uoted—We whose names are under writen being appointed by the Towne to lay out a highway for John Andrew for his use and bennift: accordingly we haue dun it: from the west corner of John Andrew his upland called the Plump ouer the Brook in the old way and so through the meadow which Sargent John Houey Senr Claimes to be his and so to the nereist place of upland to wards the northwest—dat 21 march 1692 or 3."

WAY OFF HAVERHILL STREET.

At a meeting held November 4, 1813, it was voted "That the way leading from the County road by the house occupied by Ivory Hovey to the dwelling house of Stephen Perley be mended and kept in repair in future in the same manner that Town ways are mended in the Town."

HIGH STREET.

The street which runs from Main Street, to the Wenham line. The part from Boston Street to Main Street was formerly known as "Hotel Road," from the fact that the "Topsfield Hotel" was situated at the junction of High and Boston Streets. It derives its present name from the fact that it runs along a hill for some distance. No mention of this street appears until March 19, 1754, when "The Town advised the selectmen not to lay out a highway from the County Road to



Wenham Line until Wenham Selectmen had lay'd out a highway to Topsfield Line so as they may know where to lay said road." The selectmen evidently followed instructions, but not withstanding the road was "lay'd out" and not to the satisfaction of the town for under date of September 22, 1755, "The Town made choise of Deacon George Bixby and Mr Stephen Perkins and att the adjurnment of said meeting unto the 29<sup>th</sup> of this Instant made choise of Capt. Benj<sup>a</sup> Towne and Mr. John Balch, agents, them or Either Two of them to Petition to the next General Sessions of the Peace to be holden att Newbury in Behalfe of the Town Respecting the return of a heighway Lately Laid out by a Jury from Wenham a cross the river in Topsfield to the County road in said Town." Again under date of December 9<sup>th</sup>, 1755, "The Town uoted that Capt. Benj<sup>a</sup> Towne," and three others, "be agents in Behalf of the Town, . . . to go to the court . . . and Endeavour to prevent the Court accepting of the Jury's return of their Laying out a Heighway from Wenham across the River to the County road in Topsfield." A large proportion of the inhabitants of Topsfield had a chance at being one of a committee to settle this matter in or out of court, for the committee was changed about once a month. They were at Newbury one month and at Salem the next, and must have been present at every court. September 16, 1760, a committee was chosen, "to make answer to a presentment for not mending the Highway from Topsfield to Wenham," at court to be held at Newbury. This is the last record concerning this road, and it is presumed that the town was obliged to accept it, as a town highway.

In connection with the above controversy, it may be of interest to record the way desired by the people of Topsfield instead of the one built by the Jury. This road would have extended from what is now High Street to Salem Street, starting from Wenham Causeway and ending near the bridge across Wheel Brook. At a meeting held December 9<sup>th</sup>, 1755, the Town "voted that thay ware against the Jurys return being accepted," they further voted that "thay were Willing the Court should lay out a way from Wenham to come into the County road on the Back of Mr Matthew Peabody's house, or near to Wheal Brook to go through Con-





venient Gates or an open way as the Court shall think Best." Under date of March 2, 1756, "The Town advis<sup>d</sup> the Selectmen to Lay out a heighway from the Countrey road Begining at Mr. Balch's Gate Through the Pastors in or near the old Road to Wenham Line." At a meeting held March 1, 1758, the town voted not to accept the "Private way Laid out by the Selectmen, from Mr. Balchs Gate to Wenham Line."

That portion of High Street which extends from the "Common" to the entrance of the "School Grounds," was built in 1795. The record of the lay out, is as follows:—"Whereas Jacob Towne of Topsfield by his petition to the Selectmen of said Town shewing that He Labours under a great disadvantage Relative to a way from his house to the public Road after viewing said way and consideration thereon Layed out a way as follows begining at the Common near the dwelling house of Jacob Kimball at a stake and Stones on the South Side of the bars on Land of Thomas Emerson thence running E. . . . S. . . . to said Jacob Towns Land thence on the same course by said Emersons & Townes Land . . . to the foreside of said Townes house said way to extend one rod and half wide on the Northerly and Easterly side of said line." This lay out is dated March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1795. This street was laid out Oct. 26, 1805, nearly its entire length. In 1805 the Newburyport Turnpike corporation constructed "a road from the hotel in Topsfield to the meeting house," expending the sum of \$1,878.00. An old map yet exists showing that a road originally left Main Street near the house of William A. Long, and passed through the fields to the house now occupied by Mrs. Mary R. Hodges.

The following record presumably applies to that part of High Street extending from Central and Perkins Streets to the old road passing from High Street to Central Street near the house of Ephraim Perkins. "We the subscribers being Desired by Philip Towne to alter the Road through his land have Laid out a way through sd Philip's land and by the Consent of David Perkins have laid out a way on part of said David's land & on sd Phillip's land to be in Lieve of the ancient Road on said mens lands as followeth (viz) Begining at the North side of the Ancient way near Said David



Perkins house then Running West . . . North . . .  
 by a small apple tree in s<sup>d</sup> Davids land . . . to land of  
 said Philip Towne's then North . . . west . . . by  
 said David Perkins' land . . . then west . . .  
 North . . . to the edge of the ancient Road in said  
 Phillip Townes land to Extend so far South as to Make the s<sup>d</sup>  
 way one pole & eighteen links in bredth February 17,  
 1764."

The street at different parts was "relocated and straightened," on April 11, 1809; June 15, 1813; May 7, 1827; and June 11, 1834. These changes were all accepted by the County Commissioners two or three months after the above dates.

#### ROAD FROM HIGH STREET TO THE OLD J. ARTHUR TOWNE HOUSE.

At a meeting held March 6, 1839, the town voted, "to accept of the doings of the Selectmen in the laying out of the road petitioned for by Henry Towne," as follows: "Beginning at a stake near Henry ownes house and running . . . in a south westerly direction to the County Road, through land of Ebenezer Towne one and one half rods in width as staked out." The return is dated March 5, 1839.

#### ROAD LEADING FROM HIGH STREET TO CENTRAL STREET.

This way was laid out by the "Selectmen of Topsfield upon application to them made by Thomas Perkins junr. of said Topsfield to lay out a way from his dwelling house to the Town road Southerly from the dwelling house of Ephraim Perkins after having viewed said way and consideration thereon have laid out a way as follows: beginning one rod from the south west corner of said Thomas's dwelling house, thence South . . . west . . . thence South . . . West, thence South . . . East . . . to land of Ephraim Perkins thence on land of said Ephraim Perkins, as follows, South . . . East . . . South . . . West . . . thence South . . . East . . . to





the Town road, the way to extend one rod in width on the Westerly side of said line—Topsfield Feb<sup>y</sup> 5, 1816."

### HILL STREET.

The street which extends from Salem Street to Rowley Bridge Street. So called from its hilly nature.

The first mention of this street is found under date of March 2, 1668-9 when it is recorded "The Towne hath excepted William Nicklas and John Nicklas and William Hobes from hie Way worke in ye Towne upon Consideration thay Liue remoate: and upon Condition thay mak there one hie wayes to Topsfeid Bridge nere to Joseph Towns his house." Again, "At a Llawfull Towne meeting 15<sup>th</sup> Noumber 1669. Jacob Townes & Joseph Townes are Chosen to Lay out a highway ffrom ye Bridge ouer ye Riuer by William Townes of one pole wide to William Nicklas ffarme Which he Liue upon and also to William Hobes Land." Under the same date: "Jacob and Joseph Townes being Chosen to Lay out a highway from the Bridge ouer ye riuer by William Townes of one pole Wide to William Nicklas ffarme which he Liues upon and also to William Hobes haue accordingly don it." Another lay out is recorded under date of March 4, 1689-90 when, "Corpll John Curtious and Joseph Towne iunr are Chosen to lay out a way from the Towne Bridge ouer the reuer through the woods to the ffarmes at blind hole namely the Nickallsis and thare neighbors." Mention of this lay out does not appear unless it is the following under date of "ye 14<sup>th</sup> of gennuary 1694 or 5." "John Curtious senr and Joseph Towne iunr we haue layde out a way from Isaac Burtons to ye Bridg as foloweth: begining at ye said Burtons and so as ye way now goeth to John Robison his land: and then turning to ye right by a read oake marked on ye right and a white oake marked on ye left: and so along as ye way now goeth ouer ye old ford and so along as ye beten path now goeth by Joseph Towns house and so along ye beten path all trees marked on both sids of ye way to ye Common: and so Along ye beaten path to ye bridg: we layd it out two rods wide."



The street was straightened June 2, 1818 by a committee who on this day "proceeded to widen and straighten the road or publick highway already located and laid out between the dwelling house of John Balch and a gate on said road near the dwelling house of Daniel Towne as follows viz: Beginning at the Southwesterly corner of a shop or small building of Capt. Thomas Perkins, near the dwelling house of said John Balch thence south . . . west . . . to a stake, extending in width on the southerly side to the stone wall against land of said Thomas Perkins & others, thence South . . . West . . . and extending in width on the Easterly side two rods to the stone wall as it now stands, thence south . . . west . . . to a stake upon a knoll in land of William Bradstreet this last described course terminating two rods & half a rod in width on the southerly side, thence south . . . west . . . to a stake near a stake oak tree on land of said Daniel Bixby thence South . . . West . . . to a stake by a run of water, thence West . . . to the end or opening of the above new located road, thence south . . . West . . . to a stake opposite to the gate near the dwelling house of said Daniel Towne, said road for the last thirteen described courses extends in width on the southerly side of said line of courses two rods and half a rod the whole length of said thirteen courses."

#### ROAD LEADING OFF HILL STREET.

The exact location of the following lay out is not known, but it may have been a way extending from Rowley Bridge Street near the Peterson farm to Hill Street. The record is as follows: "Agreable unto & in Compliance with a Petition Referred to ye Selectmen of ye Town of Topsfield by Thomas Mower & others Desiring a Road to be Laid out Convenient for transporting of hay & other Effects we have Laid out a privet Road in the following manner viz: Beginning at the Country Road Leading from Middleton to Topsfield in Land of Jacob & Joseph Towne said Road Beginning & Running on near where ye ancient way was: the Courses are taken on the Westerly Side of Said Road according to ye





needle the first course north . . . west . . . Second Course is west . . . North . . . to land of Samuel Cummings the third course is west . . . North . . . the fourth course runs North . . . west . . . the fifth course runs North . . . the sixth course runs North . . . East . . . the seventh course runs North . . . East . . . the eighth course runs North . . . East . . . to land of Samuel Towne Junr—this return should have been Entered following after the Town meeting in March 5<sup>th</sup>, 1765 But it was forgot."

### HOWLETT STREET.

The street extends from the "Capen House" to Perkins Street. So called from the Samuel Howlett family that lived on the hill on the right hand side of the road, a short distance beyond the "Capen House." This must have been one of the oldest streets in the town for the "Rowley Villagers" passed along this way on their way to the meeting house before 1663, and probably as early as 1640. A lay out does not appear however until March 7, 1692-3 when a committee were chosen to lay out a highway. The return was made March 21, 1692-3 as follows:—"Sargt John Houey and Daniell Ridington being appointed to lay out a highway from Sargt Samuel Howlets by John Wilds his house . . . accordingly they have done it beginning at the cuntry roode and along on the south side of Samuell Howlets land and betwene Mr Capens land and the said houlets land and so on the south side of muddy spring: so along the old carte way to John Wilds his land: and so betwene the old way to the north side of Daniell Ridingtons bounds by John Wilds his gate . . . trees being marked in sartin places the most of the way this was taken from thare owne mouths." Under date of December 11, 1730, the selectmen, "altred the Laying of the highway that Lyeth from Samuel Howlets Gate to the County Road and Layed it from said Gate by Mr. Nath<sup>l</sup> Capens Orchard Turning Round as sd Capens fence now Standeth to the Training field and we Laid it out Two Rods wide." December 26, 1782 a "Town way" was staked "from



the Training field through Land of Lt Thomas Emerson over Great Hill to Wildes Gate at Reddingtons Corner." They were allowed to place gates on this highway April 5, 1785.

### IPSWICH STREET. *See 93*

The street extending from the junction of Main and Haverhill Streets to the Ipswich town line.

That a way existed here very early is shown by the record under date of March 2, 1668 when "It is also ordered and agreed upon With Ensigne Thomas Howlett that thay will make and maintaine a bridge ouer ye Brooke by Ensignes house in ye way as wee goe to Ipswich." The first portion laid out was on October 3, 1717, and was received by the town at a meeting held September 10, 1717, the record reading as follows: "We whose Names are under Writen being desiered to lay out a way from the Road that is lay'd out through Mr. Peabodys Land & Jesse Dormans Land to Ipswich to the Bridg to Jacob Peabodys Land: Accordingly we have don it; and have laid it out as the way now goes to said Jacob Peabody's Land." This road after passing "Bird Swamp," curved toward the northeast and entered the present highway again near the barn of the late Geo. F. Pevear. The next lay out was March 13, 1805, when that portion extending from Boston Street to the house at the top of "Mannings Hill," so called. The record is as follows:—"Whereas Daniel Towne, Asa Perkins, John Bordman & Bishop Bordman & others Inhabitants of Topsfield have made application by their Petition to us the subscribers Selectmen of Topsfield to lay out a way from the dwelling house of said Daniel Towne and Asa Perkins to the dwelling house belonging to the heirs of Capt. Daniel Bordman deceased . . . beginning at the gate post in front of the dwelling house of said Daniel Towne & Asa Perkins thence south, east . . . to the gate between the land of said Daniel Towne & Asa Perkins and land of the aforesaid heirs, thence on land of the aforesaid heirs as follows (viz) begining at the gate aforesaid thence south, . . . thence west . . . thence to the wall by the aforesaid heirs field near an apple tree in the





field by the wall thence west . . . south by the wall 14 rods thence west . . . south . . . being on the southerly side of the barn belonging to the aforesaid heirs thence west . . . North . . . to the road leading from the dwelling house of the aforesaid heirs, the way to extend two rods in width on the Easterly and Southerly side of said line with liberty to keep up good and Convenient gates or bars."

The record of its lay out to North Street we do not find until 1836, though a way must have been used before that date. The road was laid out by the County Commissioners March 8, 1836, and was to be finished before June 1, 1837, as follows:—"Beginning at a stake by the wall on the Easterly side of the road bearing North . . . distant from an elm tree by the wall which stake is four rods eight links from the guide post in front of the dwelling house of F. J. Meriam [corner of Ipswich and Haverhill Streets] thence on the Easterly side North . . . to a stake at the Easterly post of a gap at land of Henry Janes,—the road is to lie & extend in width three rods Northerly of the above lines & so much further as the road now is. 2<sup>nd</sup> Course—Beginning at a stake on the Northerly side of the road by land of John Bachelder bearing North . . . the road is to lie & extend in width three rods Southerly of the above line. 3<sup>rd</sup> Beginning at a stake in land of Henry Janes bearing South . . . to a stake in Jacob Symond's land, thence South . . . to a stake on the Southerly side of the old road—the road is to lie & extend in width three rods Northerly of the above described lines. 4<sup>th</sup> Beginning at a stake in land of Joseph Bachelder bearing North . . . thence nearly East . . . to a stake by the wall two rods Northerly of the gate post, thence nearly Northeast 4 rods to a stake on the top of the hill called the Hog's back 4 rods in from the point of the wall thence North . . . to a stake by the wall on the Northerly side of the road thence North . . . across the brook to a stake on the bank Northerly of the road leading to the house of Jacob Symonds: [on North Street] the road is to lie & extend in width Southerly & Easterly of the above lines to the Southerly side of the road as it now is. 5<sup>th</sup>. Beginning at a stake by an apple tree marked bearing



South . . . thence North . . . to a stake on the Northerly side of a deep hollow in land of Aaron Kneeland." The remainder of this lay out includes North and Oak Streets. The portion from its junction with Oak Street to the Ipswich line was of course laid out at this same time. The date of the lay out from Manning's hill to the junction of Oak Street, was Dec. 11, 1856. No road existed before that time. In 1830, when a map of the town was drawn by Philander Anderson, the road did not extend beyond Manning's hill.

#### ROAD OFF IPSWICH STREET.

The lay out of Ipswich street from the Boardman-Towne house to the corner by the present house of Daniel A. Conant. "At a Legal Town Meeting in Topsfield March 2<sup>nd</sup> 1756 the Town Excepted of the Selectmen Laying out a Heighway for Mr Elisha Commings through Mr Nath<sup>l</sup> Bordman Land—voted. We the Subscribers Being Desired by Mr Elisha Cummings of Topsfield to Lay out a Private Town way from the Gate Between Mr Nathaniel Bordmans house and Barn a Cross the Brook to the Gate in the road that Leads to the Meeting House in sd Town and being meett on the Spot we proceeded and Layd out said way as followeth—Begining att an apple tree about Eight foot Distant to the Southward from the Gate first mentioned from Thence Northerly two Rods in width Distance to the Southward from said Bordmans House and field fences as it now stands to the Bridge of said Brook from thence Westerly Eight foot Distance to the Southward from the Trodden way as it now Goes to be the Boundary Line on the Southerly Side of Said way to the Gate Last Mentioned above said road to Extend Two Rods in width to the Northward from Said Southerly Boundary Line & Layd out by the subscribers this 22<sup>nd</sup> Day of December A. D. 1755."

#### MAIN STREET.

The street which runs through the centre of the town, from its junction with Haverhill and Ipswich Streets, to Boston Street. A small portion of this street was laid out in con-





nection with a part of Salem Street in 1656, the record reading, "At a Lawfull Meeting y<sup>e</sup> of 5<sup>th</sup> month 1656—it is whereby ordered and Granted that there shall be a way of foure Rod wide from the forde nigh to the House of William Towne: Through the Lands of the sd William Towns, William Howard, Jacob Town, Edmund Towne and George Buncker as it is layd out by Francis Pebody, John Redington, Edmun Towne and William Howard: at the Request of the sd Town." This same portion was laid out again, in connection with Salem Street, June 29, 1658. Under date of June 1, 1675, "Isack Estey and John Robinson and Jacob Townes are Chosen and apioynted to Vew the Way, one ye south sid of ye Riuer and to a Low of it as thay shall see good the Way as goeth to Salam that is Complained of." The part from the present "Common" to Salem Street was laid out by the Selectmen, August 5, 1703 who, "then went and laid out a Country Road from our Meeting House to the Town Bridg over ye River and so on as the road now gose through our Town to Salem Line." November 5, 1703, "the Town agreed that the former return of laying out y<sup>e</sup> highway from the Bridg ouer the River up in to the Town; Should be Recorded in y<sup>e</sup> Town Book." The part from near the junction of Summer Street to Salem Street was laid out again under date of April 2, 1711, when the "Select-Men agreed and Lay'd out a highway from the Land of Daniel Waters and Goodman Robinsons to the Town Bridge over the River begining at two Red oake Trees standing by sd Waters and Robinsons Land along by ye northwest End of William Townes Barn and so on as ye old Cartway now goes by William Townses House; and so along in the Lane to Joseph Towne Senr. House and from thence as the olde cartway goes to the causey that goes to the foresd Town Bridge." The first mention of the portion extending from High Street to Haverhill and Ipswich Streets, is October 3<sup>rd</sup> 1717, when the Selectmen "then went and Laid out a Country Road from Ipswich line near ye uper End of Mr. Bakers Pond so called along as ye way now goes to Lieut Ephraim Dormans; and So on as the Road now goes to Capt. John Hows." That portion from Salem Street to Boston Street, was laid out June 8, 1827 by the County Commissioners. Parts of this



street were laid out; April 2 1807; July 13, 1807; June 28, 1821; July 2, 1821; June 8, 1827; and March 8, 1836.

### MAPLE STREET.

The street which extends from Main Street across Boston Street to Central Street. So called from the fine maple trees which are on both sides of the street from Main to Boston Street. This street was some time known as "Frank's Lane."

This street was laid out originally in connection with Perkins Street. Under date of October 26, 1699, is recorded the following:—"begining at Thomas Pirkinsis . . . ye old beaton path all ye way with trees marked on both Sides till we come ouer fosters bridg: and then ye path that goeoth to Elisha Pirkinsis: till we com to a little oake tree marked and through his field to ye causway that gooeth ouer ye meadow and brook and then the plaine path till we com to Sarg't Easties pastures and then his pastures fence the bounds on the South Side till we com in to ye Cuntry Road."

That portion from Main to Boston Street was widened and laid out Oct. 30, 1845 and accepted Nov. 13, 1843. It was again laid out to Central Street, October 29, 1846.

### MCLEOD ROAD.

The road leading from Salem Street to the house of Norman McLeod. This road was laid out about March 8, 1857, but was not accepted by the town. The next mention we find is as follows: "Whereas the Town of Topsfield at their Meeting on the 7<sup>th</sup> of March 1774 upon hereing the Petition of John Rea Jacob Dwinel Jun<sup>r</sup> and John Rea Jun<sup>r</sup> praying that the town would mend the way for them to go to meeting in or otherwise release them as they should think proper after consideration thereon, the Town voted that the Selectmen Should lay out a way for them Therefore pursuant to the vote of said town at the above said meeting We the Subscribers have laid out a way as followeth viz. Begining at





a Stone wall in land of Archellaus Rea, near John Rea's House then running on said Archalus Reas land north . . . then northeast . . . then East . . . to land of Jacob Dwinel Jun<sup>r</sup> then runing on said Dwinells land East . . . then North . . . then east . . . to land of Jacob Dwinel Sen<sup>r</sup> then runing on said Dwinel land East . . . Extending so far South on land of the heirs of Joseph Dwinel dec<sup>d</sup> as to make said way one rod and half in width from the Stone wall that Incloses Mr Jacob Dwinel moing land on the northerly side of said way till it comes to the County Road, said way is to Extend one rod and half to the west and north of the above mentioned Lines with Liberty to hang Convenient Cart Gates a Cross said road, at the divisional lines of each persons Land," this return was dated December 22, 1775. The present way was accepted by the town June 4, 1903 as a highway, "Commencing at a bound stone at the corner of the wall near the gate on the westerly side of Salem Street in said Topsfield at land now or late of Dwinell, and running South, . . . over land of Dwinell . . . thence north . . . on land of Norman McLeod. Thence South . . . to a bound stone on a range with the Northeasterly side of said McLeod's dwelling house, said road is laid 25 feet in width."

### MEETING HOUSE LANE.

The short lane that runs from Howlett Street to Perkins Street. Tradition says that the first meeting house was located near the junction of Howlett Street and Meeting House Lane, hence its name.

This lane was originally laid out in connection with Howlett Street, though an old way must have existed here some time before March 21, 1692-3 when a highway was laid out, "from Sarg't Samuells Howlets by John Wilds his house."

### MILL STREET.

That street which runs from Washington Street to the Boxford town line. So called from the Mill located at the Boxford end of the street.



An old way existed here very early, probably as early as 1670 as the "iron works" were located at the Boxford end before that time, but no record appears of a lay out until the lay out of Jan. 19, 1767 was accepted at a meeting held Mar. 3, 1767. The lay out was as follows:—"Begining at Fishing brook bridge (so call'd) on the westerly side of the way, then northeasterly by the old way side eight pole to an oak tree, then east thirteen degrees north in land of the heirs of said Dan<sup>n</sup> Gould, then north . . . in land of said heirs and land of said Joseph Gould, North . . . East . . . in land of the said heirs and land of Joseph Gould forty pole to the old Way, then northeasterly as the old way now gos to the County road near John Goulds Barn; said way to Extend so far Easterly as to make said way two poles in Breadth." Another lay out dated February 3, 1786, was accepted by the town March 7, 1786. The record reading, "on the request of a number of the inhabitants on the Northerly side of the River in said Town, Desiering to have a way laid from the turn in the Road that leads to fishing Brook near m<sup>r</sup> Daniel Gould's House as it is now fenced to Boxford line, and agreable to said request we the Subscribers have Laid out said way Begining at the Corner of the Said Daniel Gould's Land, thence Running South . . . west through land of Asa Gould and Daniel Gould 26 rods, thence North . . . through said Asa's and Daniels' Land to Land of Nathaniel Gould thence the same cours by land of said Nathaniel . . . thence North . . . through said Nathaniel Goulds Land to Land of Simon Gould thence the same course . . . by said Simon's land, thence North . . . through said Simon Gould's Land . . . thence North . . . by said Gould's Land . . . thence North . . . by said Simon Gould's land . . . to Boxford line, said run Road to extend so far to the Northward as to make it two rods wide."

This street was, "altered, straightened and widened," January 2, 1813, and also July 12, 1847, and accepted Dec. 1, 1847, by the County Commissioners.





## NORTH STREET.

The street which extends from Ipswich Street to the Ipswich town line. A portion of this street was laid out very early. An early order for a lay out must have been made as would appear from the following entry: "At a Lawfull Towne meeting ye 9 of July, 1667. The Inhabitance of ye Towne hath Left to ye descretion of the selectmen or maior part of them to Lay out a hie way from ye Common ground Which Lys on ye south sid of mile brooke ouer againsts Goodman Dorman and sargt pebodys to Ensigne Howlett brooke notwithstanding any former towne order Whatsoever." This order was not carried out for under date of June 22, 1714, the following is recorded: "Wheras the Town in the year 1667 past a vote and left it to the descertion of the Selectmen to lay out a highway from ye Common land on the South Side of Mile Brook over against Goodman Dormans and Sarjent Peabodys to Ensign Howletts Brook—We whose names are underwriten have lay'd out a highway from ye Common land afor<sup>sd</sup> over the falls Bridg so called up the hill to the lift and fence of three Rods wide and to holde that Bradth till it comes three or four rods within Deac. Dormans and Mr Isaac Peabodys fence and then to be but two rods wide and the Line between Deac. Thomas Dormans and Mr. Isaac Peabodys Land is to be in the midle of the said highway one bearing the one half of the way & the other the other half of s<sup>d</sup> way and so wee have lay'd it out till it comes to a crooked Black or Red oak Tree standing on Deac. Dormans Side of the way & marked: and spreading a little before it comes to said crooked Tree, spreading on peabody side of the way to a Tree Marked standing by ye side of a round Hole or valley and So to another Tree marked but standing a little fourarder on, on the left side of valley afor<sup>sd</sup> and so we have lay'd out the rest of said high-way though the land of Mr Isaac Peabody as the olde highway goes till wee come to the Gate standing in the Line between Mr Isaac Peabodys and Lt Tobijah Perkinses Land and to be but two Rods wide Except at the two places afore mentioned which is to give advantag to turn as the way turns."



That portion extending northwest to the Ipswich town line, must have been an old way as referred to in the following record:—"The Town heard the Petition of M<sup>r</sup> Nathaniel Low Respecting a way, and voted that the way he uses to Come to Meeting & go to Market through Mr Benj<sup>a</sup> Woodburys land & through Mr Stephen Fosters land Shall be Mended by the Surveyors of high-ways as they mend thare other ways in Town for the futer: and also all unReasonable Incumbrances Removed from s<sup>d</sup> way, "voted March 5, 1765. It was again laid out June 2, 1818.

The County Commissioners under date of March 8, 1836, in connection with Ipswich and Oak Streets, laid the street from its junction with Ipswich Street to its junction with Oak and Boston Streets, as follows:—"Beginning at a stake in land of Joseph Bachelder bearing North . . . thence nearly east . . . to a stake by the wall two rods North-erly of the gate post, thence nearly Northeast 4 rods to a stake on the top of the hill called the Hogs back 4 rods in from the point of the wall thence North . . . across the brook to a stake on the bank Northerly of the road leading to the house of Jacob Symonds: . . . thence north . . . to a stake on the Northerly side of a deep hollow in land of Aaron Kneeland, thence South . . . to a stake on the edge of the bank at or near the Northerly line of the Newburyport Turnpike." The street was laid out to the Ipswich line by the County Commissioners on October 14, 1856.

#### ROAD LEADING FROM NORTH STREET TO THE HOUSE OF FRANCIS C. FRAME.

The following record presumably refers to this road:—"Beginning at the corner of a wall by the Ipswich Road, said wall separating a field from an avenue leading to said Jacob Symonds house thence Northerly and Westerly by and with the said wall as it now stands separating said field from said avenue thirty-one and a half rods to a corner of said avenue to land of said Lydia Lord the said road to be and extend two rods Southwesterly of the above described line." November 18, 1845.





## OAK STREET.

The street which runs from Boston Street to Ipswich Street and sometimes known as Camp Meeting road, "from the fact that a Methodist camp meeting was held beside it over sixty years ago."

This was the old way to Ipswich and was laid out in connection with North Street, in accordance with a vote passed at a meeting held July 9, 1667, though the actual lay out did not take place until June 22, 1714, as may be seen from the following record: "Whereas the Town in the year 1667 past a vote and left it to the descretion of the Selectmen to lay out a highway from ye Common Land on the South Side of Mile Brook; over against Goodman Dormans and Sarjent Peabodys to Ensign Howletts Brook—We whose Names are underwritten have lay'd out a highway from ye Common Land afore<sup>d</sup>, over the falls Bridg so called; up the Hill to the lift and fence; of three Rods wide and to holde that Bradth till it comes three or four Rods within Deac. Dormans and Mr Isac Peabodys fence; and then to be but two Rods wide and the Line between Deac Thomas Dormans and Mr Isaac Peabodys Land is to be in the midle of the said highway one bearing the one half of the way & the other the other half of sd way; and so wee have layd it out till it comes to a crooked Black or Red oak Tree standing on Deac Dormans side of the way & marked; and spreading a little before it comes to said crooked Tree; spreading on peabodys side of the way to a Tree marked standing by ye side of a round Hole or valley and so to another Tree marked but standing a little forwarder on; on the left side of the way; the way turning to the right Hand by the side of the round Hole or valley afore<sup>d</sup> and so we have layd out the rest of said highway through the land of Mr Isaac Peabody as the olde highway goes till wee come to the Gate standing in the Line between Mr Isaac Peabodys and Lt Tobijah Perkinsis Land and to be but two Rods wide Except at the two places afore mentioned; which is to give advantag to turn as the way turns."

This street was altered somewhat by the County Commissioners, March 8, 1836, when they laid it out in connection



with Ipswich and North Streets. The 6<sup>th</sup> course in this lay out, "is a new location beginning at the stake last named on the edge of the turnpike thence South . . . over land of John & Joseph Bachelder & land of John P. Peabody to a stake by the wall on the Easterly side of the old road; the road is to lie & extend in width three rods Northerly of the above described line. So much of the old road as lies between the Newburyport Turnpike & the termination of this new location is to be discontinued & the proprietors of the land adjoining have a right to enclose the same taking the materials of the present fences to build the fences on the new road."

### PARK STREET.

The street extending from Main Street to Summer Street. At a town meeting held September 27, 1872, it was voted that the Commissioners finish the roads prayed for before January 1, 1873. This was laid out in connection with Summer Street. "Beginning near the house of the heirs of T. P. Munday and running parallel with the railroad 60 feet wide . . . to the next new street."

### PERKINS STREET.

The street which runs from High Street, at the junction of Central Street, to Ipswich Street. So called from the fact that a portion of the street was called "Perkins Row" as the adjoining land and houses were owned by people bearing that name. The easterly part of this street is sometimes known as "Bonny's Feather Bed Road."\*

The portion from Meeting House Lane to Ipswich Street must have been the old way to Ipswich, and was probably the first road laid out in the town. As early as March 2, 1653, in connection with a transfer of land from William Paine of Ipswich to John Redington of Topsfield, mention is made of a way, probably some portion of what is now Perkins Street.

\*See Topsfield Hist. Colls. Vol XI p. 83.





The first mention of this street in the town records is not till March 7, 1692-3, when "Sargt John Houey and Daniell Ridington are Chosen to uew the old highway from John Wilds his hous to mile brook and state it as it may answer the end acording as it was at first laid out and firther to lay it out from Samuel Houlets to William Houlets." The entire lay out is recorded under date of March 7, 1692-3 as follows:— "Sargt John Houey and Daniell Ridington being apointed to lay out a highway from Sargt Samuell Houlets by John Wilds his house so to William Houlets brook acordingly thay haue dun it begining at the cuntry roode and along on the south side of Samuell Houlets land and betwene Mr Capens land and the said houlets land and so on the south side of muddy spring so along the old carte way to John Wilds his land: and so betwene Corppl French his house and barne: so along the old way to the north side of Daniell Ridingtons bounds by John Wilds his gate and so as the way now lyeth by ye said Wilds his house and so along the old way to mile Brook bridg and still along the old way to William Houlets brook: trees being marked in sartin places the most of the way this was taken from thare owne mouths."

That portion sometime known as "Perkins Row" was laid out to connect with the above road on May 29, 1694, when the "selectmen stated a way from Thomas Pirkins his house to ye roade to old father Wilds his house: we stated ye rode from said Pirkins his hous: bareing two rods in breadth: ye old beten way now in being being ye senter of ye way till we com to Mr Bradstreets land whare a gate now standeth and then on ye northeast side of ye gate we marked a white oake on ye eastwardly side of ye way in mr Bradstreets land by ye gate: and so along to mr Bradstreets bound tree, by cow pen brook so called: being on ye eastwardly side of ye way: and a red oake marked on ye other side against it: being about two rods asunder: ye way bareing ye same breadth all along: and then turneing to ye old ford ouer ye said brook: then betwene a fence on ye right: and a whight oake tree marked on ye left by ye northwest side of ye ford so by ye said fence till it coms to a popler tree marked by ye fence then turneing to ye left in to ye old beten rode and so ye beten rode being ye senter a red oake tree marked on ye



left on ye hill: and then against sargt Ridingtons house leu-  
ing ye old way to ye right thare being a walnut tree marked  
on ye left side of ye way: and so on a straight line by ye west  
corner of sargt Ridingtons barne to ye old way as leads to ye  
Cuntry rode by father Wilds his house, bareing ye full  
breadth all along." The remainder of this street was laid  
out October 26, 1699, as follows—"We whose names are un-  
der written being apointed by ye Selectmen to lay out a high-  
way to goo with carts and hosis from Thomas Pirkinse in to  
ye way below Enz Towne haue dun it: begining at Thomas  
Pirkinsis a fence being on ye South Side till we come behind  
his barne and a walnut tree marked on ye north side and a  
black oak tree marked on ye South side: and ye plaine  
beten path all ye way to said formerly Thomas Brownings to  
two heaps of stons are on ye South Side and are on ye north  
Side and then ye old beaten path all ye way with trees  
marked on both Sides till we come ouer fosters bridg: and  
then ye path that gooeth to Elisha Pirkinsis; till we com to  
a little oake tree marked and through his field to ye causway  
that gooeth ouer ye meadow and brook and then the plaine  
path till we com to Sarg't Easties pastures and then his pas-  
tures fence the bounds on the South Side till we com in to  
ye Cuntry Rodd."

The following record applies to that part of Perkins Street  
extending from Meeting House Lane to Howlett Street. The  
lay out dated September 15, 1843, was accepted at a meet-  
ing held November 13, 1843. "Begining at a stake by the  
wall near where said Wilds old house stood thence running  
North . . . east . . . to a pile of stones in the road  
and we have laid out said way two rods in width on the  
Northerly side of the above described line and parallel there-  
to from the point first began at over said Wilds land (taking  
about 40 poles of land) and we have awarded damage on  
account of said way to said Humphrey Wildes the sum of  
Fifteen Dollars (he having made said way or said way having  
been made agreeable to a vote of the town passed in town  
meeting this year) and we do further award or discontinue  
the old way which passed in part between this new road &  
where his old house stood, commencing on the Northerly  
side & west end of said old road at a Pile of Stones and thence





running South . . . east to the old town road ten poles said way laying southerly of this last described line containing about fourteen poles of land. Meaning hereby to discontinue the above described old way on a petition of Humphrey Wildes having had all legal proceedings in relation thereto as to notices &c and being of opinion that said old way will not be wanted by the town & that no damage will accrue by discontinuing said way agreeable to the prayer of said petition therefore said Old way is hereby discontinued."

#### ROAD FROM PERKINS STREET TO "THE COLLEGES."

This road, sometime known as "College Road," was laid out March 27, 1791 as follows: "Whereas Nathaniel Averell of Topsfield by his Petition to the Selectmen of said town Shewing that he Labours under a great disadvantage in getting to meeting and to market for want of a convenient way to pass in without Trespassing on his Neighbours, after Viewing said way and consideration thereon have Laid out a way as Follows (viz) beginning near the Northwest corner of said Averells house thence running west . . . South . . . to the brook thence from the brook near the Sawmill running South . . . west . . . on Land of John Bradstreet thence west . . . South on Land of Moses Bradstreet . . . thence west . . . South on the Line between said Averells Land and Land of Moses Bradstreet & Robert Perkins Jun<sup>r</sup> . . . thence South . . . west on Land of Robert Perkins Jun<sup>r</sup> . . . to a Stump thence South . . . West . . . to the road by said Perkins tan house the way to extend on the North of said Line one rod and one quarter in width with Liberty to hang gates or keep up good bars." This way was discontinued by vote of the town March 7, 1904.

#### ROAD LEADING FROM PERKINS STREET TO THE BRADSTREET HOUSE NOW OWNED BY THOMAS E. PROCTOR.

This way was accepted by the town at a meeting held May 8, 1793. The selectmen's return reads, that, "Whereas John Bradstreet and Dudley Bradstreet of Topsfield by their pe-



tion to the Selectmen of said Town Shewing that they Labour under a disadvantage in getting to mill to meeting and to Market for want of a Convenient way to pass in after viewing said way and Consideration thereon have Laid out a way as follows (viz) beginning near the dwelling house of the Said John and Dudley Bradstreet thence running westerly . . . South . . . thence westerly . . . North . . . to the Road near the tan yard of Robert Perkins Jn<sup>r</sup>. Said way is Laid out through Land of the heirs of Samuel Bradstreet dec<sup>d</sup> and to be one rod and a half in width westerly from the wall with Liberty to keep up a good gate for the term of three years—Topsfield April 29<sup>th</sup> 1793." This road was discontinued by vote of the town at a special meeting held April 17, 1899.

#### PINE STREET.

The street extending from Ipswich Street to Haverhill Street. This street was petitioned for April 23, 1872, and at a meeting held September 5, 1872 it was voted, "that the Commissioners be instructed to build & complete the road petitioned for . . . on or before January 1, 1873." The lay out dated November, 1872, is as follows:—"The above road is Located on a centre line to 50 feet wide, Beginning at a stake by the Ipswich road and running N. 20 rod 6 links on land of Samuel Todd, and the heirs of Amos S. Chapman to a stake, thence running S. 32 rods 6 links, on land of said Chapman heirs to a stake at the Georgetown road."

#### POND STREET.

The street which runs from Haverhill Street to Ipswich line. So named from Hood's Pond, which lays to the south of the street. The westerly portion of this street was laid out originally in connection with Haverhill Street. Under date of March 16, 1668-9 a highway was laid from, "Topsfield meeting house, along vnder the No. East syde of the Hill called bare Hill, along as the trees are marked, over the brooke by Ephraim Dormans House, and so along the plane called the Pine plaine, trees being marked to the end of Bakers Pond, and over the brooke at the pond end, by Will-





iam Pritchetts house, as the trees are marked, vnto the highway yt comes betwene Andover & Ipswich." The easterly portion, lying in Ipswich, was laid out in 1652, by order of the General Court. This street was laid out by the County Commissioners on June 28, 1821.

### PROSPECT STREET.

The street which extends from Main Street to River Street. So called from the fine view from the hill over which the street runs.

This way was not laid out as a public road until 1835 but a way was laid back of the hill March 4, 1706-7, the record reading as follows:—"We whose Names are under written being appointed & Impowered by ye Selectmen to lay out a way through the land of Zacheus perkins accordingly we have don it: and have lay'd out a way from ye lift in ye fence between Zacheus Perkinses land & Henry Lakes Land as ye path now gose till it comes to sd Perkinses fence & then straight as ye fence & stone wall gose to ye Brook and so straight over ye Brook to ye lift where Zacheus Perkins goes out of his own Land." Under date of April 22, 1707 the following is recorded: "Whereas ye Selectmen did on ye fifth Day of March 1706 or 7: order a way to be lay'd out through ye Land of Zacheus Perkins; which way was accordingly lay'd out, but Zacheus Perkins being very obstinate in the matter: and ye Selectmen not willing to do that which would bring great charge upon ye Town: Have lay'd the above mentioned Way in another place; viz: where Zacheus Perkins was not only ffree that it should be; but did promise to make the Causey upon his own cost from the side of ye Brook to ye upland on ye side of said Brook. The Way is lay'd out as followeth; begining at ye Road where the Line runs between Zacheus Perkinses Land & John Robinsons Land; and their as the sd Line doth run: have lay'd out the afore mentioned way upon Zacheus Perkinses Land till it comes up ye Hill about five or six Rords and ther turns of to ye right as it is staked out to Zacheus Perkinses ffence: and when throu Sd Perkinsis ffence: doth turn of to ye right; upon ye Land of Widow Hanah Parke and Henry Lake; as



it is Staked out to ye way whic comes down Billingsgate Hill from Henry Lake to Zacheus Perkinsis House." This last mentioned way might have come down through the pasture on the right as you now go up Billingsgate Hill. Traces of an old road at the extreme center of this pasture were discovered some years ago. The way probably went along under Billingsgate, or as it is frequently called, Price's Hill, and so by the Stanley Cellars, and out into what is now River Street near Slough Brook. This way was altered somewhat March 3, 1740-1, when, "The Town agreed to alter the way that was formerly Laid out for Mr Lake and others to come to meeting in, it appearing to the Town to be very inconveint where it was Laid out. The way now to be as follows from Mr. Lakes house on his own Land by the stone wall that is between said Lakes & Goulds Land till it comes to a pair of bars between sd Lakes and Goulds Land thence along the way as the sd Lake and Goulds go to meeting along by Thomas Perkins house and out into the Country Road by sd Perkinsis Shop."

October 14, 1835, a petition was presented to the town asking that the "bridle way" over the hill be laid out "according to law." The lay out was dated October 26, 1835, and the town accepted it November 10, 1835. The record reads: "Beginning at a stone near Samuel Hoods dwelling house, thence running north . . . West . . . to a stake; thence South . . . west . . . to a stake thence North . . . West; . . . thence South . . . West . . . to the road near Zaccheus Goulds: The said road is to be on the Southerly and Easterly side of said described courses and to be three rods in width except at the commencement near Samuel Hoods' it is to be 2 1-2 rods in width; gradually to widen so that at the end of 13 rods North . . . it is to be 4 rods in width the remainder of said road to be 3 rods in width till it comes to the road near Zaccheus Gould's, then it is to be wider."

#### REA ROAD.

A road running from the residence of Thomas W. Peirce to Boston Street. Israel Rea formerly lived in this house,





hence the name applied to the road. The laying out of this road was agitated at different times, but the only record of any importance is the record of a meeting held May 15, 1827, when it was voted: "that the way laid out the 30<sup>th</sup> day of April last by the Selectmen on the petition of Israel Rea be accepted on condition that the Selectmen can agree with Sylvester Cummings to take a reasonable sum for damages," the lay out reading: "We the subscribers, Selectmen of Topsfield being met this thirtieth day of April, 1827 for the purpose of laying out a Town or private way, from the dwelling house of Israel Rea to the Newburyport Turnpike have attended that service and laid out said road for the use of the Town as follows, viz: Beginning at the Northwesterly corner of the dwelling house of said Rea and running North . . . over land of said Rea to land of Sylvester Cummings, thence on the same course . . . over land of said Cummings to the Newburyport Turnpike road. The said road to lay on the Northeasterly side of said described course, and to be two rods and a half rod in width the whole length thereof." This return was dated April 30, 1827. At a meeting held April 21, 1856, it was voted "that the Selectmen be instructed to lay out the road petitioned for by Israel Rea & lay their doings before the town." At a meeting held August 23, 1856, it was "voted to accept of the road laid out for Israel Rea," as follows: "Beginning at a stake and stones three rods Southerly from the south side of said Rea's house; thence North . . . West . . . on land of said Rea to a wall by land of William H. Foster, formerly of Frederick Boyden, thence on a direct line and the above course, on said Foster's land . . . to a stake by Newburyport Turnpike: to be three rods wide, and to lie on the northerly side of said course." This return was dated July 21, 1856.

### RIDGE STREET.

The street which runs from Ipswich street across Boston street to Perkins Street. So called from the fact that it runs along a ridge for some distance.

The record of this lay out is the earliest upon the town records, though only a portion of it was laid out at first.



March 19, 1666-7, "Thomas perkins ffrancies pebody and John Gould are Chosen to Vew and a gree with Daniell Borman for a hie way betwene William Auerill hous and the mill throw his ground as they shall see most Convienyant." There does not appear to have been a return of this lay out till 1670, but at a "Towne Meeting ye 11 of ye 3 m. 1669. The Towne hath ordered y<sup>t</sup> the highway which Lyeth on ye south sid of Mr perkins his house and Lot ffrom William Auerill house to ye Common shall be Laid downe and one other Way on ye north side of the said house and Land shall be Laid out and ye Towne has chosen Liut ffrainces pebody Ensigne John Gould and Thomas perkins to Lay out ye said hieway." Under date of January 3, 1670, is recorded the first lay out, when, "Lliut ffrainces pebody Ensigne John Gould and Thomas perkins being chosen by ye Towne to Lay out a highway through part of William Aueriell Land and through part of Daniell Borman Land to the Northward side of Mr perkins his home ffeild haue accordingly don it ye Which highway is Laid out from the vpper End of William Aueriell orchard one rod an a halfe wide to ye afore said northward side of Mr perkins his field and so through Daniell Borman Land one ye northward sid of mr perkins ffeild to the former highway againe." Another mention of this way is on March 14, 1678-9 when the "selectmen haue ordered and here by declare that wher as there was a way layd down bettwene Mr perkenes orchard and William Averis land which thay Conceue to be Coman Land no man shall fence it in for thare proper vse but it shall Remain Coman still tell the towne do order it other wase." The entire lay out was in 1694 as follows: "The Selectmen of Topsfield being desired to renew and state a horse way from ye roode as lyeth by old father Wilds his house to goe along by ye mill: accordingly we met on ye 26<sup>th</sup> day of March 1694: and agreed and renewed and stated ye old way from ye Rode aboue said with ye Consent of old father Wilds and m<sup>r</sup> Timothy Pirkins: from thare diuisionall bounds by ye said rode allowing two rods in breadth ye one halfe on old father Wilds his land and ye other halfe on ye said Pirkins his land as thare line runeth towards the north west allowing ye same breadth on both sids ye line till it coms to an apple tree by ye line eight





rods short of ye bound tree as is that tree as is ye bounds betwene Leiut Baker and mr Timothy Pirkins and Widdow Auerills lands: and then on a straight line northwardly through ye eastwardly corner of ye said Auerills field a Joyneing; that ye east side of ye way whare it leues ye said Auerill improued land being two rods from ye said Pirkins his line whare a gat now standeth; and so as ye beaten path is along by the south side of ye mill to ye common houlding ye same breadth that carts may pass if need bee."

### RIVER STREET.

The street which extends from Salem Street to the Boxford town line. So called from the fact that the road follows the Ipswich river for some distance.

At a town meeting held April 1, 1771 it was voted to "accept of a Town way laid out by the selectmen." March 27, 1771 the selectmen laid out the road: "Begining at an ancient Town way, in land of David Balch at the corner of a stone wall, between said Balch and Henry Bradstreet, from thence running west . . . to said Bradstreets Pasture thence west . . . to land of Eliezer Lake, thence west . . . which comes a little below the gate near to Zaccheus Goulds house, said way to Extend so fur Northerly as to make it one Rod and a half wide, thence the way is to Extend on westerly . . . to a stone near to a gate post, and to Extend so fur Southerly from Zaccheus Goulds land, as the stone wall now stands, as to make the way, one Rod and a half wide, thence from the said stone near to the sd gate post, west . . . north . . . west . . . south . . . which comes to the Town way that leads to fishing brook bridge and to Extend so fur northerly as to make the way one Rod and a half wide, with Liberty to hang convenient cart gates, and we have allowed no Damage to any persons for land, but as the stone wall against the land of Henry Bradstreet and the stone wall against the land of John Cree & Elijah Porters as they now stand, are in some places within the line of said way, and in case any Surveyor shall at any time hereafter think proper to remove said wall, it shall be removed and rebuilt on line, on the Towns Cost, and in our



opinion in the same way and manner as the Inhabitants work out their highway Rat." Again under date of June 19, 1799 is recorded: "Whereas Roger Balch of Topsfield has made application to us the subscribers Selectmen of said Topsfield to lay out a Private way for him to pass and repass in to a certain tract of Pasture and tillage land owned by said Balch which he cannot pass and repass to and from without trespassing on his Neighbours after viewing the premises and consideration thereon have Layed out a way as follows (viz) beginning at the Southwest corner of Rogers & John Balch dwelling house by the County Road thence running North . . . west . . . said way to extend one rod to the Southward and Southwesterly of said line and we have Estimation the damages as follows . . . also referring to said John all the potatoes that shall grow on said road the present year;—said Roger Balch not to improve the road for any other purpose than passing and repassing for the term of one year."

### ROWLEY STREET.

The street running from Haverhill Street to the Ipswich town line it being the old road to Rowley. This street was first laid out October 3, 1717 when the Selectmen "went and laid out a country Road from Ipswich line, near ye uper end of Mr. Bakers Pond so called along as ye way now goes to Lieut Ephraim Dormans and so on as the Road now goes to Capt John Hows." The County Commissioners under date of June 18, 1821 laid out the street again. It was straightened September 26, 1876.

### ROWLEY BRIDGE STREET.

The street which extends from River Street to the Danvers town line. The street was named on account of the bridge across the Ipswich river which was so called from the fact that it was on the old way to Rowley Village, now Boxford.

A small portion of this street was laid out March 12<sup>th</sup> 1716-17 for under that date is recorded the following: "We whose Names are underwritten being chosen and Impowered





by the Selectmen to lay out a Highway from Paul Averells Land to the Road by Ebeneser Nicholson House; accordingly have done it, beginning at Paul Averells Land; and have layd it out two rods wide all the way keeping the olde plain Path till we come across the plane in John Cummings Land; and then turning to the right Hand as the way is now lay'd out, till we come to cor Joseph Towns Land: and from the uper side of the way till we come to Mr. Peabodys Land and as the Road is lay'd out, till we come to William Hobses Land, and as the Road is lay'd out till we come to Thomas Robinsons Land, and as the Road is till we come in to the olde Road." Another lay out over part of this road was made February 20<sup>th</sup> 1729-30 when a way was laid out "from Mr Nathaniel Porters Land to ye Southerly End of Mr Jacob Towns his house Lot. ye sd way is two Rods wide viz: Extending one rod on ye Southerly End of ye Lots now in ye Possession of David Balch & ye wido Dorothy Dorman & Jacob Dorman & Jesse Dorman & William Rogers & David Cummings & Jacob Redington and one Rod on ye Land formerly called ffarmer Porters Land also ye sd way is Laid out two Rods wide on a Strait Line Equelly between the above sd Jacob Towns & Jacob Redingtons viz: two rods wide on ye Southerly End of ye above sd Jacob Towns his house Lott & two rods wide on the Northerly End of sd Jacob Redingtons Land & so into ye way that Leads to the Town bridge so called."

This entry on the records under date of May 7, 1729, may be in connection with the foregoing record, and reads as follows:—"To the Town of Topsfield Now Assembled Whereas we the Subscribers were some time past Chosen a Committe and ordered by sd Town to view the way yt Leads through Jacob Reddingtons Land in order to turn it and to notifie all Parties Concerned to Meet us at ye Place. Accordingly we have done it: and Whereas we sd Committe are also Impow-ered to Lay out a way as far as sd Reddington Land goes: in Persuance there unto we have Laid out sd way as follow-eth viz—Two pole in upon sd Reddington Land at ye North-erly End & westerly Corners and Two pole in upon Mr Jacob Townes Land at the Southerly End of sd Townes Land at ye Corner next to Jacob Reddingtons Land: and so to Run strait the whole length of their Lotte."



These lay outs do not appear to have been pleasing to Jacob Towne, for under date of November 24, 1729, the following entry appears: "Wee who are the subscribers here of having complaint made to us that Corp. Jacob Town has got up fence where the road was formerly Laid Throu the south-erly corners of his Land we have been round the place and do find that the road may conveniently be altered. We do Lay out the afore<sup>d</sup> road to be where it is now ocipied On the South Side of Corp. Town his fence as it doth now Stand." Under date of May 12<sup>th</sup> 1730, a committee was appointed "to Discourse with Mr Jacob Towne Refering to ye Road Lately Laid out by sd Townes house," they were to make report to the town after having "heard sd Townses Terms for said Road and for the Damage he has sustained thereby." This did not settle the case, for under date of September 22, 1730, a new committee were chosen "to Treet with Mr Jacob Town concerning the way Lately Laid out between said Town's & Mr. Jacob Redingtons." They were given full powers to settle the case but in case they "Do not agree with ye Said Mr. Jacob Towne," they were, to "Implead said Towne and Give in ye Reasons at ye Next Inferior Court . . . why a Jury should not come to View ye said way." This committee did not come to any satisfactory understanding, so November 18, 1730, a new committee was chosen, which did not come to any settlement. The end of the matter came December 22, 1730, when we find that, "The Town agreed that whereas there hath been a Road Lately Laid out on one Side of Mr Jacob Towne's Land to meet with the Road which Leads from ye River Bridge through ye Land that was formerly Common to said Townes. And the said Jacob Townes first Division of Common Land in Topsfield Lying on both sides of said Road. The sd Jacob Towns shall have Liberty to hang two Gates on sd Road where he shall think best against his own Land, and also that ye whole of said Townes Stone wall, which is whole wall, that is against the sd Road May stand without being removed and also the Town is to pay six pound unto the said Jacob Townes for the Damage done by sd Road."

A portion of the road was laid out again March 3, 1740-1, when "The Town accepted of the selectmens return of their





laying out a way for Mr. Joseph Herrick and Mr. Nathaniel Porter Junr to go to meeting." Under the same date is the the following entry: "Upon hearing the Report of the Selectmen about the Difficulty of the way that was formerly Laid out for Mr. Nath<sup>n</sup> Porter to come to Meeting in the Town "Doo now agree to alter the said way from Mr. Porters till it comes to the Southerly end of Mr. Jacob Townes & Mr Jacob Redingtons Land viz from Mr Nathaniel Porters through Mr Joseph Herrick's Land & so into ye way Lastly Laid out for Mr. Joseph Herrick and Nathaniel Porter Junr to come to meeting in and so along said way to the afor<sup>sd</sup> Townes and Redington Land." December 7, 1740, the way was laid out "for Mr Joseph Herrick & Nathaniel Porter Junr to come to meeting in said Town from sd Nath<sup>n</sup> Porters House as the Road now runs or most beatten path along by Mr. Herricks and so on till it comes to the Highway Laid out Between Mr. Jacob Townes & Mr Jacob Redingtons their Land two rods wide."

The street was laid out for nearly its entire length on January 19, 1767, and accepted by the town March 3, 1767. An old way was here long before this but this is the first record of a lay out. The lay out is as follows: "Beginning at the Land of said Samuel Cummings on the easterly side of said way in Land of Samuel Towne Jn<sup>r</sup> north . . . to land of Thomas Mower thence north . . . by land of said Mower . . . then north . . . in Land of said Thos. Mower . . . then north . . . in land of Daniel Lake by land of Jacob Kimball . . . then North . . . in land of said Jacob Kimball then north . . . in Land of Simon Gould . . . then North . . . in land of David Balch & Eliezer Lake . . . to the River a little below the Bridge then north . . . in land of John Gould . . . then north . . . in land of Simon Gould, then north . . . by land of said John Gould then north . . . in land of Joseph Gould by land of said John Gould and Zaccheus Gould . . . then north . . . in said Joseph Goulds land to the Road leading from fishing Brook so call'd to Topsfield Meeting house, said way to Extend so far west as to make the way two pole wide." This street was laid out as a County road on September 3, 1775. The



way as laid out "and recorded A. D. 1767," was "new run" June 10, 1802, and accepted by the town June 16, 1802. It was again laid out April 14, 1829, in 1873, and on December 24, 1883.

*Ipswich*  
ROAD FROM ROWLEY BRIDGE STREET TO THE HOUSE OF  
*George M. Crocker*  
MRS. MARY S. BATCHELDER.

Under date of March 13, 1805, the "Selectmen of Topsfield upon application to them made by John Batchelder Jun<sup>r</sup> & Joseph Batchelder of said Topsfield to lay out a way from their dwelling house to the County road near the dwelling house of the Wid<sup>o</sup> Ruth Porter after having viewed said way and consideration thereon have laid out a way as follows (viz) beginning two rods from the southwest Corner of their house thence East . . . south . . . to the corner of the wall by a gutter thence South . . . east . . . to a small oak tree in the wall thence South . . . east . . . to the County road the way to extend one rod and one half rod in width on the northeasterly side of said line with liberty to keep up good gates or bars."

### SALEM STREET.

The street which runs from Main Street to the Danvers town line. So called from the fact that it was the old way to Salem, though the road formerly went in by the "Dwinell Cellars," about six hundred feet in from the present way.

The first part of this street as far as what is now Balch's bridge, was laid out "ye 4<sup>th</sup> of 5<sup>th</sup> month 1656" when it was "ordered and Granted that there shall be a way of foure rod wide from the forde nigh to the House of William Towne, through the lands of the sd William Towns, William Howard, Jacob Towne, Edmund Towne and George Buncker as it is layd out by Francis Pebody, John Redington, Edwin Towne & William Howard:—at the request of the Town." This same portion was again laid out April 2, 1711. The first lay out of any importance was under date of October 22, 1657, when it is recorded that, "We hose names are Vnder written being apointed by the too Townes to lay out a cuntry way be twine the too Townes Salem and Topsfield We





began Vpon John Porters fairme acordinge as the trees ar marked and so alonge Vpon Daniell Raises farme of too pole brod and so thoroh the Woods to a fairme of John Porters which was formerly Mr-[?] and so thoroh the woods to a farme of John Porters wich was formerly Mr Downings and so thoroh the woods to the River agains Gudman Townes house and this we haue Don accordinge to our best descre-sion." This way was "alowed of by the court (as it is layd out) held at Salem 29<sup>th</sup> of June 1658." Under date of June 1, 1675, "Isack Estey and John Robinson and Jacob Townes are chosen and apioynted to Vew the Way on ye south sid of ye Riuer and to a Low of it as they shall see good that Way as goeth to Salam that is complained of." In the court records under date of July 23, 1675, appears the follow-ing: "We present the towne of topsfeild for a defectiue high way: Bettwenn Salem bounds and topsfeild Bridge: Witt-ness Nathaniel puttman: and James Molten Junor—dismist—being informed ye way is mended."

The first lay out of the entire road, on the Topsfield rec-ords is August 5, 1703, when the selectmen "went and laid out a country Road from our Meeting House to the Town Bridg over ye River and so on as the Road now gose through our Town to Salem Line." This lay out was agreed upon at a meeting held March 7, 1703. This road was again laid out October 23, 1719. Under date of March 6, 1744, a way was laid out "at the Request of Michael Dwinel Junr . . . for ye said Michael to come to meeting," as follows: "Be-gining at the East End of the said Michaels house and run-ning one rod and a half Easterly on Capt. Thomas Tarbox Line then Runing Northerly one rod & a half on sd Tarbox Land Then Runing Westerly one Rod & a half from Capt Thomas Tarboxes Line in width till it comes to a turn in the way by Doct Dwinels field then turning Northerly by sd Doctor Dwinels field and continuing one rod and a half in width from sd Tarbox Line till it comes to a pair of bars that Leads in to Doctor Michael Dwinels Land." The street was again laid out April 2, 1807, and accepted by the Coun-ty July 13, 1807, and again June 8, 1827. This last lay out changed the road considerably, and the present road, in part, was made "new road" at this time.



## SCHOOL AVENUE.

The short Avenue which runs into the school-house grounds from Main Street, hence its name.

This Avenue was deeded to the town March 12, 1868, when it purchased the Academy and grounds from Jeremiah Balch, the deed giving "the right & privilege of the way near to the Southwest corner of the premises & pass the highway leading by the dwelling house of B. P. Adams."

## SUMMER STREET.

The street running from High Street to Main Street. May 6, 1872, the Road Commissioners were petitioned to lay out a road "Commencing on the County Road between the houses of W<sup>m</sup> P. Gallup & Ephraim Perkins and Ephraim P. Peabody and extending through their lands until it strikes the Hotel Road." At a meeting held September 27, 1872, it was voted that the Commissioners finish the road before Jan. 1, 1873. The lay out was as follows: "Beginning between the house of Ephraim Perkins & Ephraim P. Peabody, and the house of William P. Galloup, and running to High Street, (and is located on the centre line 50 feet wide) 97 rods 6 links." Park and Summer Streets were built after being petitioned for by some of the town's people whose chief reason for asking for these roads was, "there being a need of suitable building lots near the centre of business at a reasonable price."

## VALLEY ROAD.

The street which extends from High Street near Towne's Bridge, to the Danvers town line. So called from the fact that it was laid out to avoid the hills between Topsfield and Danvers. A "valley road" was agitated for a number of years. The first petition was recorded in 1827. The original idea at the time the present road was built was to leave Boston Street just south of the Stone Bridge passing over the pasture now owned by William P. Walsh, following the valley between Pingree's hill and Towne's hill, and then following on nearly as the way now goes. October 8, 1900, the County Commissioners, ordered the following way, "to be finished before October 1, 1901. Beginning at a bound stone in





the Easterly line of High Street in said Topsfield 122 ft Southerly of division wall at gravel pit on land of Sarah P. Towne, thence running south . . . across the Pasture of Forrest W. Rust . . . thence running South . . . to a bound stone . . . westerly of town bound stone on the line between Topsfield and Wenham situated on the Easterly side of the Boston and Maine Railroad track, thence running south . . . over pasture, Field, and Meadow land of Mary L. Towne and crossing High Street."

### WASHINGTON STREET.

The street running from Main Street, at the Common, to the Boxford town line. The portion extending between Mill Street and River Street was formerly called "Long Lane."

That portion extending from Boxford Street to the Boxford town line, was laid out in 1667. "At a Lawfull Towne meeting ye 8 of Apriell 1667—ffrainces pebody John Gould and John Redington are chosen to Vew and Lay out a hie way from the meeting house to Mr Endickat farme soficant for carts." At this time the meeting-house stood in what is now Pine Grove Cemetery. The road may with some difficulty, be traced from the Cemetery to Washington Street. Further mention of this lay out is made under date of May 11, 1694, when the following is recorded: "Elisha Pirkins and Ephraim Dorman being apointed to state a carte way through Capt Goulds Meadow and ouer ye fishing brook so called: thare being a way ordered from ye meeting house to Mr Endicuts farme: and ye way not being stated ouer ye said brook and through ye meadow above said we haue stated it as foloweth; we began on ye west side of ye said meadow and marked too young red oaks with heaps of stones at them being about a rod a parte: and we stated ye way to hould ye same breadth along ye old carte way baring half a rod from ye senter of ye old way to ye right and left till it comes about four rods of ye foot of ye horse bridg: and then to enlarge to ye left to include the horse way now in being to ye bridg and also to include ye bridg: and then we alow liberty from ye foot of ye horse bridg on ye east side



of ye brook till it comes about one rod and a halfe from ye bridg and then it is stated one rod in breadth along ye old way as it is stated on ye other side: thare being a cherry tree marked with a heape of stones at it: and on ye left sid a stake and a heape of stones at it both on ye side of ye up-land and on ye east side of ye meadow."

Under Boxford Street will be found mention of the old way to Boxford; the lay out is as follows: "Wee whose names are under writen being desired by some of ye Inhabitants of our Respective Towns to Lay out a Town way from the road that goes by Mr. John Capens to ye road that goes by Thomas Androus barn accordingly we have Laid out said way as followeth begining at Mr. Capens casaway so called along as the Land now goes by the Land of Sar. Daniel Clark upon Thomas Goulds and Ensign John Goulds Land to ye Land of Benjamin Byxby and so a Long between the abouesaid Benjamin Byxby house and barne to ye Broock as ye way was formerly Improuered and so along ouer ye Broock upon ye abouesaid Benjamin Byxby Land as ye way was formerly improuered to Thomas Andrews his land tho abousaid way is to Enter upon Thomas Andrews Land about three or fore rods to ye westward of a great Rock that is a boond between Thomas Andrews and Samuell Smith and so a Long as the way is now Impowered & the road y<sup>t</sup> goes by Thomas Androus Barn the aforesaid way is Lay'd out two rods wide

"Dat" in Topsfield ye 16 of October 1718

Joseph Byxby  
Samuel Symonds  
Ephraim Dorman

John Gould  
John Howlett  
Jacob Peabody  
Nathaniel Perkins

Selectmen of  
Boxford

Selectmen of  
Topsfield"

Under date of "March ye 3<sup>rd</sup> 1740-1 the Town agreed that the way which Leads from the Meeting house to Capt. Joseph Goulds shall be two Rods wide Except at Mr Capans Causway so called." March 3, 1767 a way was accepted which was laid out January 19, 1767 as follows, "Begining at Fishing Brook (so called) on the westerly side of the way,





then northeasterly by the old way side eight pole to an oak tree then east thirteen Degrees North . . . in land of the heirs of said Dan<sup>n</sup> Gould, then north . . . in land of said heirs and land of said Joseph Gould . . . then north . . . in land of said heirs and land of Joseph Gould forty pole to the old way, then northeasterly as the old way now goes to the County Road near John Goulds Barn said way to extend so far easterly as to make said way two poles in Breadth." Lay outs, straightings, and relocatings, are recorded April 26, 1770, June 10, 1802, Jan. 2, 1813 (accepted Apr. 13, 1813), July 2, 1831, March 27-8, 1832, Oct. 26, 1835, Nov. 26, 1836, June 17, 1837, and Aug. 27, 1846.

August 26, 1873, the following parts of Washington Street, were discontinued by the County Commissioners. 1st "Commencing on the North Easterly side of the highway leading to Boxford, at the South easterly corner of the horse shed of the Congregational Church; thence running . . . to Main Street, thence . . . to its junction with High Street: The Southwesterly line to be 40 feet from the North-easterly line above described, and parallel thereto."

2d. "And it is further determined that a travelled way across the "Common," so called, commencing near the house of Moses Wildes on Main Street, thence running across the said Common . . . to the highway leading to Boxford, is hereby discontinued."

That small part of Washington Street, extending from the main part to the house of Mr. Augustus W. Smith, was petitioned for in 1837. The lay out is recorded April 16, 1838, as follows:—"Beginning at a stake by the wall on the North-erly side of the way that leads from Topsfield meeting house to the lower meeting house in Boxford which stake is just one rod distant from the Southeasterly corner of John Sawyer's shop & in an easterly direction therefrom, thence running by Compass North 74° East (this line passing in front of the school house & just one foot distant from the southeast-erly corner of the same) 33 rods 10 links to a point on the westerly side of the Haverhill road which point is 44 feet distant from the Southeasterly corner of Richard Phillips Jr's dwelling house—For the accommodation of the public, a travelled path is to be built by the town of Topsfield over



the way thus described 28 feet wide. To be finished for acceptance of County Commissioners on or before October 1, 1839."

Another small portion of this street was laid out in accordance with a vote dated May 12, 1704, the record dated June 26, 1704, reading as follows: "Wee whose Names are under writen being appointed by ye Selectmen to lay out a highway from ye Meeting-House upon ye common and through the Land of Zacheus Perkins to Mr Capens Causway: which accordingly wee have done; and lay'd out said way where ye olde way before went to ye west end of Mr Capen causey."

Another lay out near Washington Street was as follows: "At a meeting of the Selectmen of Topsfield June ye: 3: 1702 did then appoint Sargt John Gould and Samuel Stanley Sen<sup>r</sup> to lay out a way from ye new Meeting House to Mr Capens Causway which accordingly we have done." This was recorded as having been "layd out" June 26, 1704.

### WENHAM STREET.

The street which extends from Salem Street to High Street. June 3, 1706, a committee was chosen to lay out the following way, presumably Wenham Street, which way was recorded as a lay out December 14, 1709, as follows: "We whose Names are under writen; being chosen to lay out a way for Beverley Men from Wenham land near ye Casey to ye meadow near Thomas Townses; have met this first day of July 1706 & have lay'd out ye way two Rods wide: beginning at ye meadow; the first are Stakes with Stons at them on Either Side ye way; and ye way is ye plaine beaten Roade up the first Hill with Trees marked and then turning to ye right with trees marked till it comes to ye Great Hill and then ye plain path till it comes to Wenham Land; with Trees marked all the way." Under date of January 28, 1707 or 8 it appears that, "the Town agreed that a Cartway shall be left between Wenham Meadow and Thomas Townses Meadow: and that Land which Zacheus Perkins hath of the Town upon Exchange on ye South Side of ye River." A similar lay out is recorded October 6, 1709, when the fol-





lowing is recorded: "We whose Names are Subscribed: have accordingly as we were Impowered by ye Selectmen; lay'd out a highway for our Town to ye Clay Pites; and allso for Beverley and Wenham Men to cary ther Hay according to our Town order; begining at the Medow by Thomas Townses so by the fence on ye left hand and a white oak on the right hand Marked: and so on between the fence & a Black oak marked and so on between Thomas Townses fence on ye left hand: and Zacheus Perkins his fence on the right hand: and so upon a Ridg to a white oak marked on the left: and still on ye Ridg about Tenn Rods; and then leaving ye Ridg on the right hand: and a swamp on ye left till it comes to two white oaks Marked one on the Right Hand the other on the left; and so to the Clay Pites; and so on leaving ye Clay Pites on the left hand: and so through Zacheus Perkinses fence to two White Oaks marked on Each Side; and ye medow on the left hand untill it come to two Blacke Oaks marked on Each side of ye way; and so into a usall Cartways from Wenham Medows to a White Oak Tree and a Black Oak Tree marked on Each side ye highway; and so along the Cartway to Wenham Causway so Called." This way might have connected with the way that tradition says passed across the river at the "Hartlands."

On the County records under date of December 30, 1757 appears the following:—"On Reading the Return of the Committee Appointed by this Court at the last term [September 27, 1757] to lay out a highway from Topsfield to Wenham which with the Discontinuance or alteration of another highway Prayed for by Nathaniel Averill & others . . . Ordered that the said Return be allowed & Recorded and the way thereby laid out be hereafter known as a public highway & the said Return is in the Words following—the committee laid out a way from Wenham Line to the Great Road So called in Topsfield leading to Salem on the North Side of the line hereafter Described of Two poles in Wedth (being the wedth as the Committee are Informed of the former way lately Discontinued which line begins at a Stake in Wenham line by the Wall on the way near Theophluis Fisk's house & from thence Runs North . . . west . . . through said Fiskes land, thence North . . . West . . . North



. . . through said Fiskes land to a stake Two poles to the Southward of the corner of Michael Dwinell Jun<sup>rs</sup> wall thence west . . . North . . . through sd Dwinells land thence West . . . North . . . thro land of Joshua Her- rick of Beverly & land of heirs of Robert Cue late of Wen- ham Dec<sup>sd</sup> thence West . . . North . . . thro land of Capt. Thomas Tarbox thence the same course 2 poles thro land of sd Michael Dwinell Jun<sup>r</sup> thence west . . . North by the wall 16 poles thro land of Doct. Michael Dwi- nell & thence West . . . North . . . thro land of Jacob Dwinell thence on the course laid mentioned 28 poles thro land of Jeremh. Town (the way here taking in a Small peice of the corner of David Balchs land) thence west . . . North . . . Through sd Towns land thence West . . . North . . . through land of Mathew Peabody to the Great Road aforesaid."

The original laying out of Salem Street, extended on Wen- ham Street some way then passed by the "Dwinell Houses" about six hundred feet in from the present road. The first lay outs of Wenham Street, would then of course, come un- der the head of Salem Street.

### WEST STREET.

The street running nearly due west from Haverhill Street to the Boxford town line, hence its name. This street was formerly known as "Gunnison Road" or "Ridge Road."

At a meeting held March 5, 1772, it was voted to accept of a way "laid out from the County road in Topsfield along by the Northerly side of barehill (so called, and so on to Box- ford Line) as follows:—Begining at said County Road about one Rod Distance from the middle of the old Troden way thence Runing west . . . north on Land of Stephen Adams . . . thence west . . . through said Adams' Land . . . to Land of Capt. John Bordman and Land of the heirs of Timothy Perkins Dec<sup>d</sup> thence west . . . through Land of said Bordman and said heirs . . . to Land of Thomas Perkins . . . thence west . . . through said Perkins Land . . . to Land of Joseph Brown. thence west . . . through said Brown's Land to Land





of Elias Smith, thence . . . West on said Smith's Land . . . to Boxford Line near to Elias Smiths house, said Boundary Line is Drawn on the Southerly and Southwesterly side of said way, and sd way is to Extend northerly and northeasterly from said Line two Rods in width." "Full liberty" was given "to hang & keep up good Cart Gates across said way." The County court accepted the way July 13, 1773. The way was altered Sept. 27, 1774.

### WILDES STREET.

The street which runs from Boston Street to the Ipswich line. April 28, 1664, John Baker, innkeeper, conveyed to Edward Neland, Irishman, a house and land on "Brooke Street." This street was probably what is now Wildes Street. The way originally ran across what is now Boston Street to North Street. At a town meeting held March 13, 1781, the following lay out was accepted. "Whereas Philip Neland and Aaron Neland of Topsfield by their Petition to the Selectmen of said Town shewing that they laboured under a very great disadvantage of getting to mill and to meeting on Sabbath days for want of a Convenient way to pass in but by trespassing on their neighbours after vewing several ways from their House and Consideration thereon have Laid out a way for the said Philip Neland and Aaron Neland as followeth viz: Begining at a heap of stones near their house then running south . . . west . . . to land of Jabez Ross, thence in said Ross's Land runing South . . . West . . . to the Brook by land of Dudley Wildes thence across said Brook running south . . . west . . . in land of Dudley Wildes, thence north-West . . . in Land of Moses Conant thence north . . . West . . . to land of Stephen Foster thence on said Fosters land north . . . west . . . to the Gate near Foster bridge, thence east to Foster's bridge 11 rods, and said Road to Extend so far to the southward as to make it one rod and one half wide, —with Liberty to hang gates where they are wanted on said Road, dat'd, Feb. 14, 1781."

Under date of June 2, 1818, is recorded another portion of the lay out as follows: "Beginning at a stake by the County road on land of Daniel Perkins, and near his dwelling house,



thence North . . . East . . . over land of said Daniel Perkins thence North . . . East . . . over land of said Perkins to land of John McKenzie, thence continuing the same course . . . over land of said John McKenzie, thence North . . . East . . . over land of said John McKenzie to a town way, thence the same course across said town way one pole . . . to land of Aaron Hubbard, thence . . . over land of said Hubbard, thence . . . over land of said Hubbard, . . . over land of the dower of Eunice Safford, thence . . . on the dividing line between lands of the heirs of John Caldwell Jun<sup>r</sup> and the aforementioned John McKenzie, thence . . . on the dividing lines between lands of David Hobbs Jun<sup>r</sup> and said John McKenzie, thence . . . over land of said Hobbs' thence . . . over land of said McKenzie & said Hobbs . . . to Ipswich line, . . . said new located road extends Eastwardly in width two rods and half a rod the whole length thereof, allowing one year from the time of the acceptance of said road as a town way, for the purposes of taking off the wood." The entire road was laid out Dec. 19, 1854 as follows: "Commencing at a stake on the easterly side of the existing road by land of Nathaniel Foster in Topsfield, and run thence south . . . to a stake, thence south . . . to a stake, etc. . . . to a stake at the existing road near Gravelly brook, which bounds Topsfield and Ipswich." The road was to be "three & four rods wide."





## JACOB KIMBALL.

---

Jacob Kimball was the son of Jacob and Priscilla (Smith) Kimball and was born in Topsfield Feb. 22, 1761, in the house still standing on Main street and now owned by Mrs. Emma Hutchings. He was a drummer boy in Capt. Baker's Co., Little's Regt. from May 2 to Oct. 2, 1775. Not long after he entered Harvard College and was graduated in the class of 1780. He studied law in the office of Judge William Wetmore of Salem and was admitted to the bar in Strafford County, N. H. in 1795. He began the practice of his profession at Rindge, N. H. as early as 1797 and was there in 1800. Soon he abandoned the practice of law and devoted himself to musical composition and instruction in which he had an established reputation. He also taught in the public schools of various towns. The records show that he had charge of schools in Topsfield in 1792, 1797, 1804, 1809, 1811, 1813, and 1814. In 1793 he published a volume of church music entitled "Rural Harmony," which contained much original composition. It was followed in 1800, by "Essex Harmony," a similar work. Both of these volumes were well received and added greatly to the excellent reputation he already had attained as a composer and teacher of vocal music. Singing schools were conducted by him in many of the towns in the County and he was well known as a singing master in Salem, Marblehead, and in the adjoining towns. He also exhibited some talent in writing poetry and his version of the 65th Psalm was used in Dr. Belknap's collection, but his love for music in time caused him to neglect permanent or profitable employment and a lack of control in the use of ardent spirits, so commonly in use in those days, finally brought him to the almshouse in Topsfield where he died July 24, 1826. He never was married.



## JOHN REDINGTON OF TOPSFIELD, MASS., AND SOME OF HIS DESCENDANTS.

Compiled by J. GRANVILLE LEACH and communicated by CORNELIA M. REDINGTON  
CARTER, of Philadelphia.

NOTHING definite is known of the immediate forbears of JOHN<sup>1</sup> REDINGTON and his brother Abraham Redington, who were among the founders of Topsfield, Massachusetts. But it is possible that they were of Hertfordshire, England, and of the parish of Hunsden there, as the name is to be found in this and adjoining parishes from the time of Richard III.\*

The tradition in various branches of the family is that they were of Hemel-Hempstead, in Hertfordshire, some twenty-four miles northward from London. The origin of this is in the fact of the baptism in that parish of Mary the wife of John Redington of Topsfield, but in the sacramental registers of Hemel-Hempstead the name of Redington does not appear.

Possessing ability, education and considerable worldly substance, John Redington was in 1648 made the first town clerk of Topsfield, and so continued, with possibly some interruptions, until 1671; and it is a subject for much regret that his history of the organization of the town government, and of the first ten years of its official existence, were irretrievably swept away by the fire which consumed his house in the autumn of 1658, or in the ensuing winter, as the earliest entry now to be found on the town records is under date of 25 Mar., 1659. A slight testimony of his efficiency as town officer is gathered from the deposition, before the Essex County Court, held at Ipswich, 26 Mar., 1661, of Walter Roper, aged about fifty-two years, in which this deponent "doth further witness That this sayd grant is before [*torn*] was in Cleere terms recorded into Towne booke [*torn*] Topsfield wch now they of Topsfield saye was b[*torn*] when John Redington's house was burnt, for [*torn*] sayd booke was kept."†

He was clerk of the writs, 1658, 1660; selectman, 1661, 1676-77, 1679-80, 1682, 1684-5; and served on the Grand Jury, 1678, 1679, and 1683. Also, he was chosen to be captain of the militia of his vicinity, his selection in this matter being thus recorded: "The inhabitants & soldiery of Topsfield and the villages adjoining thereto according to an order from Major Dennison met together the 21 of the 4mo 1666 and chose officers as follows: John Redington of Topsfield head officer in commanding or leading the company, Joseph Bigsbey sennior, sergeant, Abraham Redington, senior of the village Clerk of the band, Edmond Town, John Comins, Wm Smith, corporals. Request to Court for Confirmation signed by Dan. Hovey and Mr. Avril in the name of the rest. Request allowed."‡

According to his will of 7 Nov., 1690, his years then were "seventy or thereabouts," and his estate, inventoried at £1008. 1. 8, was to be divided between his son Daniel (who was given the land in Topsfield along the Ipswich River whereon the testator lived); the children of his daughter Mary, deceased, "those she had by her last husband, Robert Cue, as well as those by her former husband, John Herrick; daughter Martha, "now

\* Henry Redyngton appears as one of the Collectors of the Guild of St. John the Baptist, St. Michael's Parish, Bishop's Stortford, Herts., 8 Richard III.

† Essex County Court Papers, vi, 74.

‡ Essex County Court Papers, xi, 131.





The wife of John Gould living near Reading; and daughter Phebe, "wife of Samuel Fisk in Wenham." His wife is mentioned, but not by name.\* He died at Topsfield, 15 Nov., 1690.

John Redington married (1) about 1648, Mary, daughter of Zaccheus and Phebe Gould of Topsfield, who was baptized at Hemel-Hempstead, Hertfordshire, 19 Dec., 1621, and whose paternal ancestry has been traced through many generations of English yeomanry; and married (2) Sarah —, who survived him.

Children, born at Topsfield:

- i. JOHN,<sup>2</sup> b. June 20, 1649; d. in Mar. following.
- ii. MARY, b. 4 May, 1651; m. (1) 25 May, 1674, John Herrick of Beverly; m. (2) 13 Mar., 1682, Richard Cue of Salem.
- iii. PHEBE (twin), b. 7 Apr., 1655; m. 6 Nov., 1679, Samuel Fisk of Wenham.
- iv. MARTHA (twin), m. as his second wife, John Gould, Jr., b. 5 Aug., 1648, d. 24 Jan., 1712, son of John and Johanna Gould of Charlestown Upper Village. After the death of her husband, she moved to Stoneham, Mass., where she made her will 17 Aug., 1731.
2. v. DANIEL, b. 17 Mar., 1657; d. 27 or 28 Sept., 1732; m. Elizabeth Davison.
- vi. SARAH, b. 12 Mar., 1658-9; d. in July, 1689; m. as his third wife, 21 Dec., 1687, Capt. Christopher Osgood; no issue.

2. DEA. DANIEL<sup>2</sup> REDINGTON (*John*<sup>1</sup>) was born at Topsfield, 17 Mar., 1657, and died there, intestate, 27 or 28 Sept., 1732. He inherited the paternal estate on the Ipswich River in Topsfield, to which he added by grant and purchase until, in 1723, according to the Topsfield "Bill of Estates," the valuation of his property in the town was only exceeded by four others. Like his father, he was a man of affairs,—civil, military and ecclesiastical,—holding from early manhood, almost every town office; was constable 1682; selectman 1688, 1690, 1692, 1697, 1705-6; clerk of the writs, at a special meeting, 1690; jury-man 1690, 1701; grand juror 1699, 1704, 1711, 1713-14, 1717, 1719, 1723; and representative to the General Court 1704-5. He was sergeant of militia as early as 1684, and later lieutenant. On 15 Apr., 1716, he was made deacon of the Topsfield church, and so remained until 27 Sept., 1729, when, by reason of age, he was succeeded by Jacob Peabody.

Just before his death, his family and that of Ephraim Wildes, son of that Sarah Wildes who had been executed during the witchcraft excitement, signed, 14 June, 1731, "an agreement to end strife and let the boundaries [between their respective properties] remain as their fore-fathers had established."†

He married at Topsfield, 23 Mar., 1681, Elizabeth Davison, who died there, 8 Oct., 1732. She was, doubtless, a daughter of Daniel Davison, Sen., of Ipswich.

Children, born at Topsfield:

- i. MARY,<sup>3</sup> b. 12 Mar., 1681-2; d. young.
- ii. JOHN, b. 23 Mar., 1682-3.
- iii. MARGARET, b. 27 Oct., 1684; m. 19 July, 1716, Jonathan Lummus of Ipswich.
- iv. ELIZABETH, b. 14 Apr., 1686; d. young.
3. v. DANIEL (twin), b. 27 Sept., 1687; d. 29 June, 1750; m. (1) Philadelphia Peabody; m. (2) Mrs. Elizabeth Stevens.

\* Essex County Probate Files.

† Essex County Registry of Deeds, lix, 1.



- vi. ELIZA (twin).
- vii. MARY, bapt. 17 Mar., 1688-9; m. 14 Apr., 1715, Nathaniel Perkins.
- viii. SARAH, b. 6 Feb., 1690.
- 4. ix. WILLIAM, b. 13 Mar., 1691-2; d. 1746; m. Elizabeth ———.
- x. PHEBE, bapt. 13 Aug., 1693.
- 5. xi. JACOB, b. 5 Sept., 1695; d. in 1773; m. Elizabeth Hubbard.
- 6. xii. PHINEAS, b. 19 Oct., 1697; m. Dorothy Davison.
- 7. xiii. ABRAHAM, b. 4 Oct., 1699; m. Mary Bayley.
- xiv. NATHANIEL, b. 10 May, 1701; wounded in the expedition against Cape Breton; petitioned the General Court for an allowance by reason of his disabilities, which was allowed by the Committee of War, 11 June, 1747.\*
- xv. DORCAS, b. 14 Nov., 1702.
- xvi. MARTHA, b. 4 May, 1704; m. 17 June, 1731, Daniel Clark.

3. DANIEL<sup>8</sup> REDINGTON (*Dea. Daniel*,<sup>2</sup> *John*<sup>1</sup>) was born in Topsfield, 27 Sept., 1687, and died there, 29 June, 1750. By deed of gift, 7 June, 1729, his father set over to him part of his "farm or home lying with the Township of Topsfield on both sides of the highway that goeth before my door, being part upland and part meadow, and the south easterly part of my farm upon which my son Daniel's house and barn now stands."†

He held various town offices, was jury-man 1729, 1742; selectman 1737-1741, 1745-46; on school committee 1741; constable 1742; grand-juror 1744, 1748. His will of 29 June, 1750, proved 9 July, the same year, named wife Elizabeth, son Daniel, and daughter Anna.

He married (1), 27 Feb., 1721, Philadelphia, born at Topsfield, 28 Sept., 1698, died 23 Oct., 1743, daughter of Isaac Peabody, and granddaughter of Lieut. Francis Peabody, who, like the Goulds and Redingtons, was a native of Hertfordshire; and married (2) at Andover, 3 July, 1746, Mrs. Elizabeth Stevens of that place, by whom he had no issue.

Children, by first wife, born at Topsfield:

- i. DANIEL,<sup>4</sup> b. 7 Dec., 1722; d. young.
  - ii. THOMAS, b. 25 Nov., 1724; d. 25 Oct., 1736.
  - iii. SARAH, b. 16 May, 1728; d. 5 Oct., 1736.
  - iv. DORCAS, b. 2 Mar., 1730; d. 28 Oct., 1736.
  - v. MARGARET, bapt. 29 Sept., 1734; d. 25 Oct., 1736.
  - vi. ANNA, b. 18 Oct., 1737.
  - vii. DANIEL, b. 24 Mar., 1738-9; m. Esther ———.
4. WILLIAM<sup>8</sup> REDINGTON (*Dea. Daniel*,<sup>2</sup> *John*<sup>1</sup>) was born at Topsfield, 13 Mar., 1691-2, and received from his father, 7 June, 1729, a portion of his farmstead there, upon which he afterwards resided. He was jury-man 1724, 1731, 1742; selectman 1727-28, 1733; schoolmaster 1729-1731; and grand-juror, 1743. He died, intestate, possibly from hardships endured in the memorable expedition to Cape Breton in 1745, in which he had served as Lieutenant in Captain Hill's Company of Artificers, being commissioned by General Sir Peter Warren, 11 June, 1745.‡ In the account filed by the widow in the settlement of his estate, is this item: "wages due to my husband by the Committee of War."

\* Acts and Resolves of the Province of Massachusetts, viii, 604.

† Essex County Registry of Deeds, xiii, 126-7; lxxvii, 174; xevii, 125.

‡ NEW ENG. HIST. GEN. REGISTER, xxiv, 378.





The date of his marriage and the surname of his wife Elizabeth have not been ascertained. She survived him, and administered on his estate, 7 July, 1746.\*

Children :

- i. WILLIAM,<sup>4</sup> It was probably he who was sergeant in the 3d Company, 8th Regt., under Col. John Choat, in the expedition against Louisburg in 1749; and also probably he whose intention of marriage to Elizabeth Burrill, 17 June, 1742, was recorded at Boston, as was also his marriage to Mary Wright, 19 Apr., 1744. Issue: Mary, bapt. at New North Church, Boston, as dau. of William and Mary, 3 Mar., 1744-5, who, as a minor daughter "under fourteen years of William Redington late of Boston," had Elizabeth Redington, widow, of Topsfield, appointed as her guardian, 1 May, 1749.
- ii. ELIZABETH, b. 3 Sept., 1723; m. 16 Sept., 1746, John Hood.
- iii. MARY, m. 22 Nov., 1744, Samuel Howlett, Jr.; dismissed to the church at Woodstock, Conn., 4 Nov., 1749.
9. iv. JOHN, b. 12 Aug., 1726; m. Sarah West.
- v. JONATHAN, b. 28 Jan., 1730; bapt. 14 Feb., 1731; "died in ye war 1755."

5. JACOB<sup>3</sup> REDINGTON (*Dea. Daniel*,<sup>2</sup> *John*<sup>1</sup>) was born at Topsfield, 5 Sept., 1695, and died at Richmond, Mass., in 1773, before 21 May of that year. He was constable 1735; and selectman and jury-man 1736.

Animated by "the Great desire . . . to promote good learning among the Children and Youth in the Neighborhood," he made over to the town of Topsfield, 28 Sept., 1738, a tract of land on the "South side of Ipswich River for the purpose of a School House,"† which is the first school-house of record in Topsfield. On 11 Mar., 1740, he sold his residence and lands in Topsfield, and removed with his family to Connecticut, where he purchased, 3 Aug., 1741, one hundred acres of land with mansion house thereon, in Ellington Parish, Windsor, being then styled as "late of Topsfield;"‡ and on 26 Apr., 1748, he acquired an equal acreage in Tolland, Conn., on the "road leading from the Keating House to Beaver Brook,"§ and disposed of the same to his sons, all of whom, for a time at least, were residents of Tolland. About 1760, the Berkshire hills began to attract settlers from Connecticut, and between 1765 and 1770, he and his surviving sons removed to Richmond, where he died, intestate, the inventory of his estate being filed 21 May, 1773.

He married, at Topsfield, 12 Nov., 1719, Elizabeth, born at Berwick, Me., 13 Feb., 1697, daughter of Philip Hubbard of the Parish of St. Saviour, Isle of Jersey, and of Berwick, Me., by his wife Elizabeth (Goodwin), widow of Zachariah Emery. She was admitted to membership in the Church of Topsfield, 3 May, 1730, and was dismissed to the Fourth Church of Windsor, 8 Apr., 1742.||

Children, all, except the youngest, born at Topsfield :

- i. DORCAS,<sup>4</sup> bapt. 9 Aug., 1724; d. 1 Dec., 1729.
10. ii. DANIEL, bapt. 26 Feb., 1726; d. at Albany, N. Y., 1760; m. Hannah Haynes.

\* Essex County Probate Files, No. 23445.

† Essex County Registry of Deeds, lxxix, 87.

‡ Windsor Land Records, vii, 191.

§ Tolland Land Records, iv, 216.

|| Hubbard Genealogy.



11. iii. JACOB, bapt. 25 May, 1729; d. 7 Mar., 1804.
12. iv. NATHANIEL, b. abt. 1731; d. 1762; m. Sarah Haynes.
  - v. DORCAS, bapt. 11 June, 1732; d. 16 May, 1751; m. at Tolland, 6 Sept., 1750, John West, Jr.
  - vi. PHEBE, bapt. 28 Dec., 1735; d. at Tolland, 24 Sept., 1770; m. there, 8 Dec., 1757, Jacob Fellows.
13. vii. ELIPHALET, bapt. 11 June, 1738; d. 30 May, 1814; m. Anna Kingsbury.
  - viii. OLIVE, b. at Windsor, 23 Dec., 1741; m. 3 Sept., 1761, Eleazer West, b. at Tolland, 20 Nov., 1739, d. at Clarksburg, Va., 16 May, 1788.  
Issue: 1. *Charles*. 2. *Thankful*. 3. *Olive*, b. at Glass Work Grants, Conn., 11 July, 1775; d. at Paris, Ky., 10 June, 1831; m. at Clarksburg, 9 May, 1795, Dr. George Selden.

6. PHINEAS<sup>8</sup> REDINGTON (*Dea. Daniel,<sup>2</sup> John<sup>1</sup>*) was born at Topsfield, 19 Oct., 1697, and died at Lebanon, Conn., 19 Oct., 1763. He was grand-juror 1730; constable 1736; on school committee 1738; and selectman 1740. On 7 June, 1729, he had a conveyance, from his father, of a dwelling house and lands in Topsfield, bounded by those already given to his brothers Abraham, Daniel and William. These he afterwards sold, and removed to Lebanon, where, on 30 Mar., 1741, he purchased land, being then styled as "late of Topsfield in Massachusetts."\* His will of 16 Sept., 1763, dated at Lebanon, was proved 6 Oct. following, and named wife Dorothy, daughters Dorothy Munsell and Aun Wright.†

He married, at Ipswich, 8 Nov., 1726, Dorothy Davison, who died in July, 1784.

Children, born at Topsfield:

- i. DOROTHY,<sup>4</sup> b. 20 Aug., 1727; m. at Lebanon, 26 May, 1750, Elisha Munsell.
- ii. ANNE, b. 11 Dec., 1730; m. at Lebanon, Benjamin Wright, Jr., of Lebanon.
- iii. PHINEAS, b. 7 Jan., 1733; d. 2 May, 1735.
- iv. SARAH, b. 10 Mar., 1735; d. 9 Sept. following.
- v. PHINEAS, b. 22 Sept., 1738; d. 16 May, 1739.

7. ABRAHAM<sup>8</sup> REDINGTON (*Dea. Daniel,<sup>2</sup> John<sup>1</sup>*) was born at Topsfield, 4 Oct., 1699, and there remained until 1735, when his name appears on the "Account Book" of Thomas Newcombe‡ of Lebanon, being set down as of Mansfield, Conn., where, while still of Topsfield, he bought a farmstead, 19 Mar., 1733, and where he continued until after 10 Sept., 1754.§

He married, at Topsfield, 29 Aug., 1733, Mary Bayley. Their first child was born at Topsfield, the others at Mansfield.

Children:

- i. ABRAHAM,<sup>4</sup> b. 9 Nov., 1734; d. at Mansfield, 30 Oct., 1735.
- ii. ABRAHAM, b. 11 Aug., 1736; served in the campaign against Canada, in the 3d Company, 2d Regt. Connecticut militia, under Maj. Isaac Foot, from 6 May to 30 Sept., 1758.
- iii. DANIEL, b. 13 Apr., 1738; "marched to the relief of Fort William Henry," in 5th Regt., Connecticut militia, under Capt. Jonathan Rudd, in Aug., 1757.
- iv. MARY, b. 11 Feb., 1740.

\* Lebanon Land Records, vi, 207.

† Windham County, Conn., Probate Records, vi, 471.

‡ NEW ENG. HIST. GEN. REGISTER, xxxi, 294.

§ Mansfield Land Records, iii, 435; v, 605.





- v. PHINEAS, b. 6 July, 1742; reported in the "hospital at Albany, 13 June to 31 Oct., 1760."
- vi. PHEBE, b. 6 Sept., 1744.
- vii. WILLIAM, b. 25 Jan., 1746-7; d. 21 Aug., 1748.
- viii. ENOCH, b. 7 Mar., 1749; bapt. at Mansfield, as an adult, 10 Dec., 1775; served as sergt. in Capt. Nathaniel Wales' Company of Conn. militia in the Revolution, being dismissed therefrom 17 Oct., 1776; removed to Lebanon, N. H., where he d. 14 Jan., 1826.
- ix. ANN, b. 30 May, 1751.
- x. OLIVE, b. 6 Dec., 1754.

8. DANIEL<sup>4</sup> REDINGTON (*Daniel*,<sup>3</sup> *Dea. Daniel*,<sup>2</sup> *John*<sup>1</sup>) was born at Topsfield, 24 Mar., 1739, and according to family traditions, died as a soldier during the Revolution. He was called "late of Topsfield, deceased," 29 May, 1779, when Bartholomew Dodge was appointed guardian to his eldest son.

He married Esther ———.

Children, born at Topsfield:

- i. ESTHER,<sup>5</sup> b. 3 Dec., 1761; m. ——— Thompson of Autrim, N. H.
- ii. DANIEL, b. 28 Aug., 1763; was a Revolutionary soldier; appears in a descriptive list of men raised in Essex County for a term of nine months, agreeable to Resolve of 20 Apr., 1778, as "aged 17 years, stature 5 ft. 6 in., complexion brown, residence Wenham." He served in various later engagements, and it was doubtless he who was captured on the ship *Essex*, 16 June, 1781, being described as of Wenham, and committed to Old Mill Prison, near Plymouth, England. In 1811 he was in Canada, and in 1819 of Warren County, Ohio.
- iii. JACOB, b. 6 Aug., 1766; d. young.
- iv. JOHN, b. 11 Mar., 1769; had Isaac Averill appointed his guardian, 5 May, 1785; removed to Tioga Point, N. Y.
- v. ADAM, bapt. 17 Mar., 1771; m. (1) 15 May, 1793, Hannah, dau. of Capt. Israel Dodge of Wenham, who d. 21 June, 1809; m. (2) 22 Nov., 1800, Sarah Knowlton; resided at Wenham during his early married life, and later removed to Wendell, N. H. Issue: 1. *John*,<sup>6</sup> d. 27 Jan., 1795, aged 10 mos. 2. *John*, b. 11 May, 1798; m. Mary Patch of Beverly. 3. *Hannah Dodge*, bapt. 19 Dec., 1802. 4. *Anna Mudge*, b. 23 Aug., 1803. 5. *Jacob*, b. 19 May, 1805. 6. *Mary*, bapt. 14 May, 1809. 7. *Esther*, bapt. 19 May, 1811.
- vi. OLIVE, d. 13 Mar., 1857, aged 85 yrs.; m. 10 Mar., 1796, Capt. Israel Clark.
- vii. ANNA, b. 30 June, 1775; d. 12 Nov., 1840; m. 23 Sept., 1796, John Mudge of Lynn.

9. JOHN<sup>4</sup> REDINGTON (*William*,<sup>3</sup> *Dea. Daniel*,<sup>2</sup> *John*<sup>1</sup>) was born at Topsfield, 12 Aug., 1726. He removed to Tolland, Conn., shortly after his father's death and before 1750, and continued a resident there as late as 25 Jan., 1787, when he was a witness to a deed of Aaron Woodward.\*

He married, at Tolland, 30 Aug., 1750, Sarah, daughter of Samuel West of Tolland, born 21 Mar., 1729, and named in her father's will of Jan., 1778, as "daughter Sarah Redington."†

Children, born in Tolland:

- i. ANN,<sup>5</sup> b. 22 Feb., 1752.
- ii. WILLIAM, b. 4 Sept., and d. 19 Oct., 1754.
- iii. ELIZABETH, b. 29 July, 1756; m. at Coventry, Conn., 18 Mar., 1775, Samuel Ladd, Jr., of Coventry, and later of Sharon, Vt.

\* Tolland Records, viii, 122.

† Stafford, Conn., Probate District, ii, 87-S.



- iv. SARAH, b. 29 Jan., 1759.
- v. SUBMIT, b. 29 Jan., 1762.
- vi. MARY, b. 12 Mar., 1765.
- vii. JOHN, b. 8 Aug., 1767.
- viii. WILLIAM, b. 8 Aug., 1767.

10. DANIEL<sup>4</sup> REDINGTON (*Jacob,<sup>3</sup> Dea. Daniel,<sup>2</sup> John<sup>1</sup>*) was baptized at Topsfield, 26 Feb., 1726, and removed to Tolland, before 14 Sept., 1748, where he acquired from his father one hundred acres of land.\* He returned to Essex County, and lived for a time, after his marriage, at Haverhill, and was enrolled in the 1st Company of Haverhill militia, raised in 1757 for the reduction of Canada,† and died in service at Albany, N. Y., about 1761. An interesting letter from his widow, dated 6 Feb., 1762, and addressed to Hon. John Choate, Judge of the Court of Common Pleas of Essex County, sets forth that her "late husband, Daniel Redington of Haverhill, deceased intestate, more than a year ago at Albany . . . that he having neither father, brother, or any other near relation living in this Province, do desire that my father Joseph Haynes who is a considerable creditor on his estate may be appointed administrator."‡

He married, at Haverhill, being then called of Tolland, 2 Jan., 1752, Hannah, daughter of Joseph Haynes, by his wife Elizabeth Clement of Haverhill, born at Haverhill, 27 Mar., 1735, died at Tolland, 28 Mar., 1783. On 11 Feb., 1762, she married second, at Tolland, as his second wife, Joshua Morgan of that town, by whom she had ten children.

Child, born at Haverhill:

14. i. JOHN,<sup>5</sup> b. 29 Sept., 1757; d. 30 Apr., 1830; m. (1) Miriam Watkins; m. (2) Laura Wales.

11. JACOB<sup>4</sup> REDINGTON (*Jacob,<sup>3</sup> Dea. Daniel,<sup>2</sup> John<sup>1</sup>*) was baptized at Topsfield, 25 May, 1729, and died at Richmond, Mass., 7 Mar., 1804. He accompanied his father to Windsor and Tolland, and at the latter place, by deed of gift from his father, 4 Jan., 1762, secured a farm adjoining that of his brother, Nathaniel,§ and removed to Richmond shortly afterward. He served as a private in the 8th Company, 1st Regiment, Conn. militia, in the French and Indian War campaign of 1759; and also in the Revolution, under various enlistments, in the militia of Berkshire County, Mass., "called out to re-inforce the Northern Army," at Saratoga and Ticonderoga in 1777.||

He married (1) ———; and married (2) Bridget ———, who d. 26 Feb., 1819, aged 71 years.

Children by first wife:

- i. DANIEL,<sup>5</sup>
- ii. MARGARET, m. William West.
- iii. ELIZABETH, m. John Flower.
- iv. JOHN.

\* Tolland Land Records, iv, 216.

† Chase's History of Haverhill, 347.

‡ Essex County Probate Files, No. 23435.

§ Tolland Land Records, v, 449.

|| Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors in the Revolution.





## Children by second wife, recorded at Richmond:

- v. WEST, b. 4 June, 1778; of Butternuts, N. Y., 1819.
- vi. LUCINDA, b. 20 Mar., 1780.
- vii. PHEBE (twin), b. 23 Jan., 1782; m. 1 Dec., 1809, John Cook; was of East Haddam, Conn., Feb., 1819.
- viii. OLIVE (twin), d. before Feb., 1819; m. 5 Dec., 1805, Erastus Rossiter of Richmond.
- ix. POLLY, b. 6 Sept., 1784; d. 20 Feb., 1809.
- x. JACOB, b. 16 Dec., 1786.
- xi. ELI, b. 12 Sept., 1789; d. in New York City, before Feb., 1819; m. Lydia Burr. Issue: 1. *Mary Ann*,<sup>6</sup> b. 30 Oct., 1810. 2. *George Franklin*, b. 23 Sept., 1814; d. 1875; m. Martha H. Bush; settled in Troy, Penn.

12. NATHANIEL<sup>4</sup> REDINGTON (*Jacob*,<sup>3</sup> *Dea. Daniel*,<sup>2</sup> *John*<sup>1</sup>) was born at Topsfield, about 1731, and died in the French and Indian War, about Aug., 1762. After the removal of his family to Connecticut, by deed of gift from his father he held land at Windsor and at Tolland, but upon his marriage, he made his residence for a time at Haverhill, where, in 1757, he was enrolled in the 1st militia Company, and was one of the detachment under Ens. Joseph Badger, Jr., that marched, 16 Aug., 1759, on the last alarm for the relief of Fort William Henry.\* He was also sergeant in the 8th Company, 1st Conn. militia, under Capt. Edward Barnard of Windsor, in the campaign of 1759, and his name is on the pay-roll of Col. Israel Putnam's Company, same Regiment, in the campaign of 1762, enlisting 17 Mar., and reported "dead" 8 Sept., 1762.†

He married, at Haverhill, 6 May, 1751, Sarah, daughter of Joseph Haynes, and sister of the wife of his brother Daniel, born at Haverhill, 31 Oct., 1736.

## Children:

- i. ELIZABETH,<sup>5</sup> b. at Haverhill, 4 Sept., 1756.
- ii. SARAH, b. at Haverhill, 7 Dec., 1757.
- 15. iii. JACOB, b. at Tolland, 4 July, 1759; d. 22 Aug., 1843; m. Eunice King.

13. ELIPHALET<sup>4</sup> REDINGTON (*Jacob*,<sup>3</sup> *Dea. Daniel*,<sup>2</sup> *John*<sup>1</sup>) was baptized at Topsfield, 11 June, 1738, and died at Richmond, 30 May, 1814. He lived at Tolland and Richmond, and his will, dated at Richmond, proved 7 June, 1814,‡ provided for wife Anna, and children Eliphalet, Nathaniel, Anna Rathbone, Polly Smith, Love Rathburn, and Phebe Coggsell. During the earlier years of the Revolution, he was almost continuously in service, and marched to re-inforce the Northern army, and was at Ticonderoga and Stillwater.§

He married, at Tolland, 22 Oct., 1761, Anna Kingsbury, born at Coventry, Conn., 10 May, 1745, died at Richmond, 7 Feb., 1810.

## Children:

- i. NATHANIEL,<sup>5</sup> b. 18 Oct., 1762; d. 4 Oct., 1839; m. (1) Polly ———; m. (2) Temperance Gates.
- ii. ANNA, b. at Tolland, 14 Sept., 1764; m. 16 Mar., 1789, Daniel Rathburn.

\* Chase's History of Haverhill, 347, 350.

† French and Indian War Rolls, of Connecticut.

‡ Berkshire County Probate Files, No. 3218.

§ Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors in the Revolution.



- iii. MARY LUCY, b. at Tolland, 23 Sept., 1766; m. 4 May, 1897, Dr. Gilbert Smith.
- iv. LOVE, m. ——— Rathburn.
- v. PHEBE, b. 19 May, 1771; d. 11 Apr., 1816; m. 10 Nov., 1790, Elisha Cogswell.
- vi. ELIPHALET, b. 5 Jan., 1774; m. 9 Nov., 1796, Elizabeth ———, b. 8 Aug., 1774. Issue: 1. *Mira*,<sup>6</sup> b. 27 Sept., 1797. 2. *Ransen*, b. 23 Mar., 1800. 3. *Theresa*, b. 8 Mar., 1803. 4. *Alexander Hamilton*, b. 27 May, 1807; d. 20 Nov., 1809. 5. *Alexander Hyde*, b. 10 Sept., 1811.

14. CAPT. JOHN<sup>5</sup> REDINGTON (*Daniel*,<sup>4</sup> *Jacob*,<sup>3</sup> *Dea. Daniel*,<sup>2</sup> *John*<sup>1</sup>) was born at Haverhill, Mass., 29 Sept., 1757, and baptized there, 2 Oct. following. With his mother, he went to Tolland, and there resided until the outbreak of the Revolution, in which, under enlistments from Ashford, Mansfield, and Tolland, he served until the close of the war.\* He was at Princeton and Trenton, at the surrender of Burgoyne, and in 1781, while scouting, was captured and imprisoned in the Sugar House in New York. After peace was declared, he settled on Redington Patent, in what is now Lawyersville, Schoharie County, N. Y., where he was in command of the second company of calvary raised in the country. He also represented the county in the thirty-fifth session of the N. Y. State Assembly, in 1812. He died 30 Apr., 1830. His epitaph in Lawyersville graveyard reads: "A Revolutionary veteran; an enterprising settler of the County, of distinguished public spirit, an honest man."†

He married (1), at Ashford, Conn., 5 Dec., 1782, Miriam, daughter of Edward Watkins of Ashford, born 26 Feb., 1753, died 7 Aug., 1811, and by this marriage had no issue. He married (2), 5 Dec., 1811, Laura, daughter of Elisha Smith and Mary (Watkins) Wales, born 28 June, 1787, died at Lawyersville, 22 July, 1868. Fifteen years after Captain Redington's decease, his widow married (2) Judge Jedediah Miller of Lawyersville.

Children by second wife:

- i. MIRIAM CLARISSA<sup>6</sup> b. 8 Oct., 1812; d. 23 Feb., 1864; m. 17 May, 1834, James T. Blodgett. Issue: 1. *Charles Rufus*,<sup>7</sup> b. 16 Feb., 1835; d. 16 Feb., 1839. 2. *Helen Frances*, b. 19 Oct., 1838; m. Ward Wills of Gloversville, N. Y.
- ii. JOHN, b. 17 Sept., 1814; d. 29 Mar., 1816.
- iii. JOHN WALES, b. 24 Nov., 1816; d. 1894; m. 4 Jan., 1842, Eunice Corinthia Bellamy. Issue: 1. *Mary E.*,<sup>7</sup> b. 8 Jan., 1843; d. 5 Apr., 1857. 2. *Laura Augusta*, b. 9 May, 1845; m. Samuel Foot of Norwich, N. Y. 3. *Julia Corinthia*, b. 29 Jan., 1847; m. Girard Mead of Norwich. 4. *John J.*, b. 6 June, 1851; d. unmarried.
- iv. JOSEPH ALEXANDER, b. at Saratoga Springs, N. Y., 4 June, 1818; d. at Cleveland, Ohio, 11 May, 1894; m. at Cleveland, 28 July, 1841, Chloe, dau. of Adam and Cynthia (Baker) Lewis, b. at Hornellsville, Steuben Co., N. Y., 15 June, 1821, d. 12 Jan., 1905. Issue: 1. *Levine L.*,<sup>7</sup> b. 1 May, 1842; d. 26 July, 1843. 2. *Cornelia Miranda*, b. 7 Aug., 1846; m. 11 Nov., 1868, William T. Carter, b. at Pengilly, Cornwall, Eng., 23 Aug., 1827, d. at Philadelphia, Penn., 9 Feb., 1893. 3. *Helen Eliza*, b. 3 May, 1848; m. 26 Mar., 1867, Henry H. Adams. 4. *Walter Joseph*, b. 23 Nov., 1857; m. 28 July, 1881, Clara B. Case. 5. *Julia Mary*, b. 6 July, 1860; m. 12 Jan., 1882, John B. Moore. 6. *Stella Josephine*, b. 23 Aug., 1862; m. 17 June, 1884, Henry H. Mitchell.

\* Connecticut Men in the Revolution.

† History of Schoharie County, New York.





- v. CORNELIA ELIZA, b. 27 Oct., 1820; m. Abraham Shutts of Lawyersville, N. Y.; no issue.
- vi. ELISHA SMITH, b. 18 Jan., 1823; d. 16 July, 1825.
- vii. THOMAS HAINES, b. 29 Apr., 1825; d. unmarried, 24 Mar., 1855.
- viii. JULIA M., b. 11 Jan., 1827; d. 29 July, 1856; m. at Cleveland, Ohio, 17 Apr., 1855, Simeon Edison, uncle of the famous electrician; no issue.
- ix. LAURA ALMIRA, b. 7 Feb., 1830; m. 3 Oct., 1854, John Calhoun Ferguson, who d. 3 Aug., 1869; no issue.

15. JACOB<sup>5</sup> REDINGTON (*Nathaniel*,<sup>4</sup> *Jacob*,<sup>3</sup> *Dea. Daniel*,<sup>2</sup> *John*<sup>1</sup>) was born at Tolland, Conn., 4 July 1759, and resided, after his father's death, at Richmond, Mass. During the Revolution, he served under a number of enlistments, as follows: Private, Capt. Gideon King's Company, 17th Regt., Albany County, N. Y., militia, 1779; \* private, 7th Regt., Mass. Line, July 13, 1780; private, 6th Regt., Mass. Line; transferred to 10th Mass. Line, transferred to 2d Mass. Line, 1781-1783.† After the war, he settled in Vergennes, Vt., where he held many town offices, and was a member of the first Common Council of its first city government, instituted in 1794. He removed to St. Lawrence County, N. Y., in 1800, and was one of the founders of the town of Waddington, where he died, 22 Aug., 1843.

He married, 17 Nov., 1785, Eunice, daughter of Ashael King of New Lebanon, Columbia County, N. Y., who died at Waddington, 15 Oct., 1847, aged 79 years.

#### Children:

- i. SARAH,<sup>6</sup> b. 4 Jan., 1787.
- ii. NANCY, b. 19 Jan., 1789; d. 27 Mar., 1811.
- iii. MARY, b. 7 Mar., 1791; d. 5 July, 1819; m. Isaac Dearborn.
- iv. GEORGE, d. young.
- v. JACOB SMITH, b. 15 June, 1795; d. at Potsdam, N. Y., 11 Feb., 1834.
- vi. EMELINE, b. 17 June, 1797; m. Jacob Seeley; lived in Ogdensburg, N. Y.
- vii. GEORGE, b. 23 Nov., 1798; d. 15 Sept., 1850; m. (1) Amoretta Stone; m. (2) Lorai Williams Sheldon. Issue by first marriage: 1. *Sarah A.*,<sup>7</sup> b. 9 Nov., 1829; d. 4 Mar., 1898. 2. *Harriet C.*, b. 2 May, 1831; d. 18 Sept., 1898. 3. *Jane E.*, b. 27 May, 1833; d. 1 Mar., 1898. 4. *George S.*, b. 19 May, 1834; d. 25 Sept., 1835. 5. *Anna M.*, b. 14 Dec., 1835; d. 2 Aug., 1904. 6. *Mary E.*, b. 2 Feb., 1839. 7. *Henry V.*, b. 24 Nov., 1840. Issue by second marriage: 8. *John Jacob*, b. 15 June, 1845; d. 21 Jan., 1847. 9. *Charles Medad*, b. 17 Mar., 1846. 10. *Lyman Williams*, b. 14 Mar., 1849; m. (1) Catharine R. Merrill; m. (2) Frances W. Sutton.
- viii. JOHN HARRIS, b. 23 Sept., 1801; d. at Morristown, N. Y., in 1841; m. Emily Washburn; was a Presbyterian divine. Issue: 1. *John Calvin Owen*,<sup>7</sup> b. Aug., 1837; d. Oct., 1905; m. Emma I. Swanger. 2. *Emily*, m. Rev. Giles T. Montgomery.
- ix. LYMAN KING, b. 22 Nov., 1803; d. at Syracuse, N. Y.
- x. JULIETT, b. 14 Aug., 1805; d. 3 Sept., 1808.
- xi. NATHANIEL A., b. 24 Oct., 1807; d. in California.
- xii. JAMES, Esq., b. at Waddington, 27 June, 1810; d. 12 Oct., 1891; m. 1835, Charlotte Y. Colfax of New London, Conn. Issue: 1. *Mary Chipman*.<sup>7</sup> 2. *Frances Anne*. 3. *Sarah Elizabeth*. 4. *James King*. 5. *George Nathaniel*.
- xlii. NANCY JULIETT, b. 8 Feb., 1813; d. 5 Feb., 1814.

\* New York in the Revolution.

† Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors in the Revolution.



16. NATHANIEL<sup>5</sup> REDINGTON (*Eliphalet*,<sup>4</sup> *Jacob*,<sup>3</sup> *Dea. Daniel*,<sup>2</sup> *John*<sup>1</sup>), born at Tolland, 18 Oct., 1762, resided most of his life at Richmond, where he died, 4 Oct., 1839. His will directed that his wife should have a life interest in his estate, with remainder to his children and their heirs.\*

He married (1) Polly ———; and married (2), in 1830, Temperance Gates.

Children:

- i. LAURA,<sup>6</sup> b. 21 Aug., 1784; m. ——— Swift.
- ii. HARRY, b. 3 Apr., 1786; removed to Ohio.
- iii. POLLY, b. 3 Nov., 1787; m. Elias Walker; removed to Ithaca, N. Y.
- iv. CLARISSA, b. 7 Mar., 1791; d. 16 Apr., 1869; m. 23 July, 1815, Addison Dewey, b. 2 May, 1793, d. 19 May, 1835.†
- v. PHEBE, b. Mar., 1793; m. in 1821, Luther Salmon; had issue.
- vi. KINGSBURY, b. 4 Feb., 1795.
- vii. NATHANIEL, d. after 9 June, 1840; m. ———. Issue: 1. *Alfred*.<sup>7</sup>  
2. *Mary*. 3. *Myra*. 4. *Polly*. 5. *Henry H*. 6. *Teresa*, m. Joshua Simmons.
- viii. LUCIUS, b. 5 June, 1810; d. 25 July, 1874; m. 2 Sept., 1830, Julia Ann Jacques.

# LETTER TO LIEUT. JOHN GOULD COMMANDING THE MILITARY COMPANY IN TOPSFIELD, IN 1684.

Haverhill May 31: 84

To Lieut: John Gold

In obedience to a Let<sup>r</sup> I recied: last night from o<sup>r</sup> Maj<sup>r</sup>: Gen<sup>l</sup>: with a comand from him in this vacancie of a settled Serg<sup>t</sup>: Maj<sup>r</sup>: for y<sup>e</sup> North Regim<sup>t</sup>: in Essex to issue ou<sup>r</sup> warrant to y<sup>e</sup> Comission<sup>d</sup> officers for a Speedy survey of y<sup>e</sup> state & condition of y<sup>e</sup> Soldiers under their comand w<sup>th</sup> respect to their armes & ammunition & other furniture as y<sup>e</sup> Law require each man to haue.

These are in his Maj<sup>ties</sup> Name & for his service to will & require you to make diligent search & survey how & in w<sup>t</sup> manner all your Soldiers are fitted & furnished w<sup>th</sup>: armes ammunition & other furniture in all respects required by Law And in pticul<sup>r</sup> y<sup>t</sup> you w<sup>th</sup> y<sup>e</sup> rest of y<sup>e</sup> Committee of Militia of y<sup>e</sup> Towne survey to giue acco<sup>t</sup>: of y<sup>r</sup> Towne stock of armes and ammunition & to see y<sup>t</sup> it be complet & full and you in y<sup>r</sup> place as Comand of y<sup>e</sup> foot & as Comittee man are required to take speedy effectuell carre y<sup>t</sup> all defects be repaired & supplied. of all, w<sup>e</sup> you are to giue me a pticul<sup>r</sup>: acco<sup>t</sup>: und<sup>r</sup>: yo<sup>r</sup> hands y<sup>t</sup> according to his Mag<sup>t</sup>: Gen<sup>l</sup>: comand, I may certifie him and my hand by o<sup>r</sup> upon y<sup>e</sup> last of June next in w<sup>t</sup> state & posture yo<sup>r</sup> Company is in: & therefore I pray faile not to send me yo<sup>r</sup> acct: by y<sup>e</sup> 20 of June next y<sup>t</sup> I may haue time to performe w<sup>t</sup> is required of me.

In y<sup>e</sup> Maj<sup>r</sup>: Gen<sup>l</sup>: Letter I haue order also to require you w<sup>e</sup> I hereby do w<sup>th</sup>: all convenient speed to provide a new flight or suit of Colours for yo<sup>r</sup> foot company y<sup>e</sup> grand feild or flight whereof is to be Green w<sup>th</sup> a red crofs in a white feild in the angle according to antient custome of o<sup>r</sup> owne English nation & y<sup>e</sup> English plantations in America & our owne practice in o<sup>r</sup> ships & other vessels. The bullets to be put into yo<sup>r</sup> Colours for distinction & dignitie not being yet determined you may leave out at present w<sup>th</sup> out damage in making them or hindrance to or after determination. so faile not. yo<sup>r</sup> friend & servant.

H. SALTONSTALL.





MEMORANDUM CONCERNING THE MEETING HOUSE MADE BY JACOB  
TOWNE, THE TOWN CLERK, AND FOUND IN THE PAPERS OF  
THE LATE JOHN H. GOULD.

June 10, 1817.	Tuesday.	The spire of the steeple taken down.
14,	Saturday.	The lantern of the steeple raised.
19,	Thursday, A.M.	The bell arrived.
26,		The bell raised.
July 6,		First rung on the Sabbath.
16,		The weather vane put on.
18,		Stage round the top of the steeple taken down.
26,		Finished painting the Meeting house.

---

CERTIFICATE CONCERNING PHILIP MCKENZIE,\* COPIED FROM THE  
ORIGINAL IN THE ELIEZER LAKE PAPERS.

This is to Certify whom it may concern that Philape McKinzie of late from Scotland who had his passage to America along with the 71<sup>st</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup> but did not belong to it or any other under the Crown his passage was payed by his brother William McKinzie soldier in the 71<sup>st</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup> now prisoner of war his brother Philape has three times attempted to make his escape to hallifax but was as often disiponted he has now entered into countinantell service in order to make his way to the Brittish troops & if ever it bees his portion to fall in with them we Reccomend him a true & loyal subject & hope he will be treated accordingly

JOHN GILBERTSON Serg<sup>t</sup> 71<sup>st</sup> Reg  
ALEX<sup>d</sup> McDUGALL Serg<sup>t</sup> 17<sup>th</sup> Reg

\* Philip McKenzie married, Nov. 13, 1777, Susanna Hobbs of Topsfield. See also Topsfield Historical Collections, Vol. II, p. 108.



## NEWSPAPER ITEMS RELATING TO TOPSFIELD

COPIED FROM SALEM NEWSPAPERS

BY GEORGE FRANCIS DOW.

(Continued from Vol. X (1905), page 136.)

---

THE ESSEX CONVENTION on the subject of the Sabbath are hereby notified, that a Special Meeting will be holden at the Hotel in Topsfield, on TUESDAY 23d January current, at 11 o'clock, A. M. to take into consideration the expediency of petitioning the General Court for some legislative provision to revive, or give efficacy to, the laws of the Commonwealth relative to the Sabbath, and to do any thing in relation to the general object which shall be judged advisable. A general and punctual attendance is earnestly requested.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE,

*Salem Gazette, Jan. 12, 1816.*

---

DIED. At Topsfield, Mr. AARON CONANT, aged 63. His death was occasioned by a punctured wound by the scissors five weeks previous: he was a branch of the Appleton family, remarkable for its disposition to bleed when wounded. Mr. Conant, unimpeachable in his morals, had lived an inoffensive and exemplary life distinguished for his probity and uprightness in his intercourse with the world. But if society has to mourn the loss of one of its firmest props, federalism of an interested & steadfast supporter, the religion of Jesus of a follower—a respectable family can measure their grief only by their more intimate knowledge of his worth.

*Salem Gazette, Jan. 23, 1816.*





THE ESSEX CONVENTION met at the Hotel in Topsfield on the 23 inst. agreeably to the notification given in the Public Papers by The Chairman of the standing Committee.

The Hon. JOHN HAND, Esq. the Moderator, being absent, the Rev. Mr. ALLEN was chosen Moderator pro temp.

Deeply impressed with the immense importance of a due observance of the Sabbath or Lord's Day, as affecting the present interests and future hopes of man; believing "that the safety of the Commonwealth, the moral and religious improvement of the people, the personal security and happiness of all" are essentially dependent upon its sacred observance; and, at the same time, believing that no law of this Commonwealth *now* exists, which can be so executed, as to secure this object:

Therefore *Resolved* by this Convention, that a respectful petition be presented to the General Court of this Commonwealth, now in session, praying for such legal provision, as shall effectually secure the due observance of the Sabbath or Lord's Day.

The Rev. DR. PARISH, Rev. DR. WORCESTER, Rev. MR. EDWARDS, DR. BENJAMIN PARKER, and Capt. JOHN PEARSON, were chosen a Committee to prepare the petition.

The petition being prepared and read, was adopted, unanimously.

*Voted*—That the petition be signed by the Moderator and countersigned by the Clerk; and that the Clerk and the Rev. Mr. Edwards be a committee to prepare a copy of the Petition, and cause it to be presented to the General Court.

*Resolved*—That it is expedient to recommend, and we do hereby recommend, that a respectful Petition from each Town or Parish in this County, be presented, without delay, to the General Court, praying for such legal provision, as shall effectually secure the due observance of the Sabbath or Lord's Day.

*Voted*—That the doings of the Convention be published in the Public Papers of Boston, Salem, Newburyport and Haverhill; and that the Clerk prepare copies and forward them accordingly.



*Voted*—To adjourn, until again convoked, by notice to be given in the Public Papers, by the Chairman of the Standing Committee.

JOHN ADAMS, Clerk.

*Salem Gazette, Jan. 30, 1816.*

---

*Shocking Accident!* Saturday last, Mr. MOSES SMITH, formerly of Marblehead, fell from a scaffold in Topsfield and broke his neck. He expired in a few minutes afterwards.

*Salem Gazette, Feb. 6, 1816.*

---

**DIED**—At Topsfield, Mr. Samuel Bradstreet, aged 56. He was killed in attempting to extricate himself from a wagon drawn by a stubborn horse.

*Salem Gazette, Dec. 20, 1816.*

---

**POST OFFICE, SALEM.** A mail on horseback arrives from Haverhill, every Saturday, at noon and returns at 2 p. m.

*Salem Gazette, Jan. 9, 1818.*

---

**AGRICULTURE.** The Farmers, and others, in the County of Essex who are desirous of promoting the Agricultural interest, are requested to meet at the Hotel in Topsfield, on Monday, the 16th day of February current, at eleven o'clock, A. M. for the purpose of forming an AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY FOR THE COUNTY OF ESSEX, in aid of the Massachusetts Agricultural society. As the object of this meeting is important, it is hoped there will be a general attendance.

*Salem Gazette, Feb. 10, 1818.*





ESSEX AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY. At a respectable meeting of the inhabitants of the County of Essex, at the Hotel in Topsfield, on Monday the 16th instant for the purpose of forming an Agricultural Society for the County of Essex, Ichabod Tucker, Esq. was chosen Moderator, and David Cummins, secretary of the meeting. [Rules and Regulations comprising 16 Articles, were adopted and among the officers elected was Hon. Nehemiah Cleaveland of Topsfield, Treasurer.] Voted, That this meeting be adjourned to meet at the Hotel in Topsfield, on the first Wednesday of May, next, at 11 o'clock, A. M.

*Salem Gazette, Feb. 20, 1818.*

---

POST OFFICE, Salem. A Mail in a Post-Chaise arrives from Haverhill, Boxford and Topsfield, every saturday, at noon, and returns at 2 P. M.

*Salem Gazette, Mar. 20, 1818.*

---

ONE CENT REWARD. Run-away from the subscriber, on Thursday 23d inst. an indented apprentice, named THOMAS Latty. All persons are forbidden harbouring or trusting him on my account, as I will pay no debts or charges of his contracting after this date. Whoever returns said apprentice shall receive the above reward, and no charges paid.

Dudley Wildes, jun.

Topsfield, April 28.

*Salem Gazette, Apr. 28, 1818.*

---

*Essex Agricultural Society.*—Pursuant to notice, the Members of the Essex Agricultural Society met at Topsfield on the 6th instant. After transacting the ordinary business of the Society, an Address, which had been previously prepared by the President, The Honourable TIMOTHY PICKERING, (who was unavoidably absent, as a Member of the Ex-



ecutive Council) was read. This production, for perspicuity and elegance of style, as well as learned research and experiment upon some of the most important subjects relating to Agriculture, has never been surpassed. It will reflect singular honour upon The Society, and the distinguished personage who presides in it with such wisdom and knowledge. We trust that this invaluable production to the practical Farmer will soon be communicated to the public.

*Salem Gazette, May 8, 1818.*

---

ESSEX AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY. By the act incorporating the Society passed in June last it is provided "That DAVID CUMMINS of Salem, be authorized to call the first meeting of the Agricultural Society in Salem, by giving public notice of the time and place of holding the Meeting two weeks in each of the newspapers printed within the County of Essex."

Pursuant to the foregoing Act the Members of the Essex Agricultural Society are hereby notified that their first Meeting will be holden at the Hotel in Topsfield on the first Monday of October next at 11 o'clock, A. M.

DAVID CUMMINS.

*Salem Gazette, Sept. 22, 1818.*

---

About a fortnight in December there was good sleighing at the northward of us, down we believe as far as Topsfield hill; but we have had none, and very little snow. The most of January and so far in February has afforded us the mild temperature of Spring, without its chills; the frost is extracted from the ground, the ways are settled, the traveling is good, and farmers have been ploughing their fields; so that, whatever severity of cold, or violent tempests are yet to come, we promise ourselves but a short winter.

*Salem Gazette, Feb. 5, 1819.*





## ESSEX COUNTY CONVENTION.

The FEDERALISTS of the several towns in OLD ESSEX are requested to choose DELEGATES to attend a *Convention* to Wildes' Hotel, in Topsfield, on Monday, 22d instant, to nominate a list of SENATORS, and make arrangements for the April Election. It is hoped every Town will be represented.

*Salem Gazette, Mar. 12, 1819.*

## REAL ESTATE.

Will be sold at Public Auction, on Tuesday the 20th day of April next, at 2 o'clock, P. M. at the Dwelling House of *Amos Foster*, in Topsfield,

Nine undivided tenth parts of the Real Estate, which has been improved by PRISCILLA FOSTER, as dower in the Estate of ABRAHAM FOSTER, late of Topsfield, yeoman, deceased, intestate. Said Estate is situate in Topsfield, containing about 22 acres of Land, and part of a Dwelling-House, Barn and other Buildings thereon. Conditions made known at the time and place of sale.

Abraham Foster  
for himself, and  
Abijah Foster.

Joseph Clough,  
Martha Clough,  
Joseph Plumer,  
Mary Plumer,  
Amos Foster,  
Mehitable Burbank,  
Abraham Dickinson,  
William Dickinson jun.  
Jonathan Hobbs,  
Rachel Hobbs.

*Salem Gazette, Mar. 30, 1819.*



## HAVERHILL STAGE.

A Carriage will leave Salem every Friday morning at 6 o'clock, and arrive at Haverhill at half past 9 o'clock—Returning, will leave Haverhill on Saturday Afternoon at 2 o'clock, and arrive at Salem at half past 5 o'clock.

For Seats, apply at Mannings Stage Office, Union Street.

*Salem Gazette, June 4, 1819.*

---

## POST OFFICE, SALEM.

A Mail from Haverhill, Boxford and Topsfield arrives at 1-2 past 11 A. M. and closes at 1-4 before 1 P. M.

*Salem Gazette, July 2, 1819.*

---

## POST OFFICE, SALEM.

Haverhill, Boxford and Topsfield Mail Stage. Arrives every Saturday at half past 11, A. M. and departs the same day at 2, P. M.

*Salem Gazette, Oct. 19, 1819.*

---

DIED. At Topsfield, Jan. 11, Dea. John Gould, aged 71—an exemplary Christian. Same day, Capt. Dudley Wildes, 34, of pulmonic fever. Jan 21, of the same disorder, Mr. Dudley Wildes, father of the preceding, aged 62. Jan. 26th, Eunice, daughter of Wm. Odell, aged 8. Jan 27, Mr Joseph Towne, 71.

*Salem Gazette, Feb. 1, 1820.*

---

## ESSEX AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The stated Meeting of the Essex Agricultural Society will be holden at the Hotel in Topsfield, on Monday the 21st instant, at 11 o'clock. At this Meeting a choice of Officers





for the ensuing year will be made; and the Place for holding the Cattle Show agreed upon. A punctual attendance is requested.

DAVID CUMMINS, Sec'y.

*Salem Gazette, Feb. 11, 1820.*

---

DIED. At Rowley, Mrs. Polly, wife of Mr. Asa Bradstreet, and youngest daughter of Lieut. Jonas Meriam, of Topsfield, aged 22.

*Salem Gazette, Feb. 15, 1820.*

---

#### ESSEX AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

A meeting of this Society was held on Monday last at Topsfield, agreeably to notification. About 200 members were present. An address was delivered by the Hon. TIMOTHY PICKERING, President of the Society. We understand it was agreed to hold their Exhibition and Cattle Show at Topsfield near the Hotel, on Thursday, the 12th of October next. The Brighton Exhibition is to be on the 17th and 18th of the same month.

*Salem Gazette, Feb. 29, 1820.*

---

*Acknowledgement.*—We have received from a Topsfield correspondent a defence of the word GRAND, against the assault of a writer in the Register, and regret that though partly in type we are obliged to omit till Friday, when it shall appear.

*Salem Gazette, Mar. 21, 1820.*

---

[This communication was printed as promised. It is a column in length, verbose, and written in the stilted manner common at that period.]



**MILITARY.**—At a meeting of the Rowley and Topsfield Cavalry, held at Topsfield, on the 27th ult. Nathaniel Scott of Ipswich was elected Captain, vice Capt. Daniel Bixby, resigned; Porter Bradstreet, First Lieutenant; Nathaniel Bradstreet, of Rowley, Second Lieutenant; John Ray, junr. Cornet.

*Salem Gazette, Apr. 6, 1820.*

During the Thunder Shower on Thursday afternoon, a melancholy event took place at Middleton. The house improved as a Tavern by Mr. Samuel Bradstreet, was struck by lightning, and a lad by the name of Beckford, belonging to Topsfield, about 14 years of age, was instantly killed. The electric fluid descended by the chimney, and after passing into several apartments of the house, shattered some windows, etc. struck the young man, who was standing in the doorway of a lower apartment, first upon his head, tearing his hat, his clothes and shoes upon his right side to pieces. There were eight or ten other persons in the house at the time, but none of them were injured, and the house sustained but little damage. Mr. Bradstreet was lying upon a bed in a chamber which the lightning entered and from the traces it must have passed immediately over him.

*Salem Gazette, June 25, 1820.*

### WAS LOST

On the 9th inst. between Salem and Topsfield, a drab colored GREAT COAT lined with green baize, with four capes, bound with galoon ribbond, somewhat darker than the coat—Who ever having found the same will leave it at the Sun Tavern in Salem, or at the Topsfield Hotel, so that the owner may obtain it, will be liberally rewarded for his trouble and condescension.

Topsfield, Aug. 9.

*Salem Gazette, Aug. 11, 1820.*





The Cattle Show at Topsfield takes place on Thursday next. These exhibitions are becoming yearly more interesting, and beneficial, and promise to supersede, as holidays, in public curiosity and attention, our boasted "Fall Trainings."

*Salem Gazette, Oct. 3, 1820.*

---

Yesterday was our Essex Cattle Show at Topsfield. The weather was unfavourable to this first exhibition of our farmers, of which we have as yet received no particulars, but hope it may have been up to the excellence of the objects produced before the public. The emulation existed by this institution, whereby the stock and products of different farms are brought into composition, and the embodying in a common fund, the various knowledge and skill of individuals for the benefit of all, cannot fail to have an improving effect in our agriculture, and like manure spread over them to enrich our fields. Among the competitors for premiums were the Salem & the Marblehead alms-house farms.

*Salem Gazette, Oct. 6, 1820.*

---

### ESSEX CATTLE SHOW.

We have heard much praise of the exhibition at Topsfield on Thursday last, as greatly exceeding expectation, and regret that we have not been furnished with a full and official statement of the particulars of it, which we trust will yet be laid before our farmers, to excite their emulation, and show them what they are capable of doing. The Register states that nearly 100 animals of various kinds were exhibited—that the working oxen (9 or 10 pair) probably have not been excelled in any show in the State—that the bulls, calves and swine were for the most part very fine (the calves we have heard mentioned as very superior)—that among the specimens of domestic manufacturers were some beautiful lace from Ipswich, for which that ancient town has been for many years famous—that the yoke of oxen from our alms-house



farm drew the heaviest load in the trial of working cattle, that the plough of the Hon. T. Pickering, president of the society, performed the best ploughing. A judicious Address was made by Dr. Nichols on the occasion.

*Salem Gazette, Oct. 10, 1820.*

---

Cyrus Cummings, Esq. was the delegate from Topsfield to the Federalist State Convention.

*Salem Gazette, Oct. 20, 1820.*

---

#### NOTICE.

Taken up by the subscriber, in Topsfield, a two year old STEER, with some white about his flank, and the letter P. branded on his rump, which the owner may have by proving property and paying charges. Apply to

JACOB BATCHELDER.

*Salem Gazette, Oct. 27, 1820.*

---

DIED. At Topsfield, Mr. Nathaniel Bradstreet, aged 25— a young man of amiable disposition and distinguished talents, who promised much to his friends and country, and whose loss is much lamented by all who knew him.

*Salem Gazette, Nov. 10, 1820.*

---

FIRE! On Tuesday night last, a house in Topsfield, occupied by Messrs. Timothy and Solomon Emerson, was destroyed by fire, caught from an oven which had been heated the preceeding afternoon, and they with their families narrowly escaped perishing in the flames. More particulars of this disaster are given in a piece, signed T. Emerson, and inserted below.





## AN APPEAL TO THE BENEVOLENT.

FRIENDS OF HUMANITY! On the night of the 2d inst. the house in which I lived was demolished by fire, and all the provisions which by hard labour I had laid up, and which would have comfortably supported my family through the winter, were destroyed, with the principal part of the furniture and nearly all the clothing. I am now, with my wife and five children, deprived of a house and the necessities of life. I am reluctant to ask your aid, but am compelled to it by dire necessity; and whatever your benevolent feelings may prompt you to bestow, I do assure you will be gratefully received. But to return to the distresses and cries of my family: these make my shudder while I write; they being taken out of their bed and hove out in the snow, and nothing on but their linen, and I nothing on but my trousers. I froze my toes and fingers trying to keep my children from freezing. My brother, who lived in the chamber over me, did but just escape with his life, being stifled with smoke. My brother, having an old lady blind and helpless, was obliged to carry her half a mile to the first house. The house caught by the oven, it being heat that afternoon. I was in my bed, being first accosted by the smoke in the room, sprang from my bed, opening the doors, and the fire burst immediately into the room. I was obliged to get my family out as soon as possible. This was on Tuesday night, the 2d day of January, 1821.

Timothy Emerson.

*Salem Gazette, Jan. 9, 1821.*

---

A FARM—for Sale.

A valuable Farm in Topsfield, in the County of Essex, containing about one hundred and thirty Acres of Land, all lying in one body, well proportioned with Mowing, Tillage, Pasturing, Orcharding and Woodland, well situated on a public road leading to Newburyport, and also the Stage road to Haverhill, about one mile and a half from the Meeting-house, and two and a half from Salem Market, with a very



convenient House and Barn newly repaired, with all necessary out buildings, Cider Mill, house, &c. All of which are well calculated for the Convenience of the Farm, and in the most complete order; a good well of water, with a Pump, &c. The buildings stand on the Newburyport road which runs through the centre of the Farm. The Farm is capable of great improvement and is very easy and convenient to manage, pasturing is handy to the barn, and a plenty of wood handy to the house, the large wood and timber is estimated at about one hundred and fifty Cords that may be cut and carried to market, and leaving as handsome a growth of young wood as can be found in that quarter, amply sufficient for the use of the fires and without diminishing the same. On the north side of the said Farm, is a beautiful Fish Pond, and on the south side a pleasant Brook of Water.—The Farm is well known by the ancient name of the *Dorman Farm*.—Also, one other Lot of Meadow Land, Containing about two acres and a half, lying on Ipswich River, about two miles from the Farm.—Also, one third of a Pew on the lower floor in Topsfield Meeting-house; a Stable Lot, &c.—And likewise, all the Stock and Tools belonging to the Farm, consisting of one yoke of oxen, a farm Horse, and a number of Cows, and about a dozen of Sheep with Lambs; a good Chaise, Ox Wagon, Cider Mill, and many other farming utensils; Indian Corn, Potatoes, Cheese, &c.—The whole will be sold at Auction, on *MONDAY the 9th day of April next*, at 10 o'clock in the morning, on the premises, if not sold at private sale before.—For further particulars enquire of NATHANIEL GERRY, of Salem, trader, near Northfield bridge, or DAVID BAILEY and WM. BROWN, on the premises,

PHEBE DORMAN.

*Salem Gazette, Mar. 20, 1821.*

---

Dr. R. Augustus Merriam of Topsfield, was chosen Secretary, of The Essex County Federal Republican Convention held at Smith's Tavern, Ipswich, Mar. 21, 1821.

*Salem Gazette, Mar. 23, 1821.*





*Military.*—Lieut. Porter Bradstreet, of Topsfield, has been chosen Captain—Nath'l Bradstreet, of Rowley, first Lieutenant—John Rea, jun. of Topsfield, 2d Lieut. and John Rea, 3d, of Topsfield, Cornet.—of the Topsfield and Rowley Cavalry.

*Salem Gazette, May 11, 1821.*

---

Licensed inn holders and retailers of wines and liquors in Topsfield. A. D. 1820.

*Innholders*—Samuel Conant, Solomon Wildes.

*Retailers.*—Daniel Bixby, jun. Josiah Gould.

*Salem Gazette, June 15, 1821.*

---

Petition of David Hobbs, jr. guardian of Annie Averill, of Topsfield, yeoman, "a person given to excessive drinking and idleness," stating that the debts against the estate of said Averill amount to \$383.80 and there being no personal estate praying for permission to all real estate.

*Salem Gazette, June 19, 1821.*

---

DIED. At Topsfield, June 6th, Mr. Luke Averill—His death was occasioned by a cart wheel running over him the day before.

*Salem Gazette, July 24, 1821.*

---

DIED. At Salem, Mr. Azariah Averill, formerly of Topsfield, 45.

*Salem Gazette, Jan. 4, 1822.*

---

#### SHERIFF'S SALE.

Taken by execution, and will be sold at Public Vendue,



on Thursday the twenty-fourth day of January next, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon, at the Topsfield Hotel in said County.

All the right in Equity which Ebenezer Dodge, of Topsfield, yeoman, has to redeem a certain Farm situate in Topsfield, consisting first of the homestead, containing eighty acres, with a Dwelling House and other Buildings thereon. Secondly, a parcel of about three acres of Brook Meadow, situate in said Topsfield [together with other parcels in Topsfield, Boxford and Ipswich] The Mortgage deed having been given to Solomon Wildes, Nov. 28, 1820.

*Salem Gazette, Jan. 8, 1822.*

---

DIED. At Topsfield, on the 30th of January last, Widow Dorothy Prichard, in the 90th year of her age. She was born February 24, 1732, O. S. She publicly professed faith in the Redeemer, and connected herself with the church in Topsfield, Oct. 25, 1731, in the 10th year of her age; of which church she was a member more than 80 years; during which time, she maintained a uniform life of christian purity. For several of her last years, she was dependent on public aid for daily support; nevertheless, few finish their earthly course more highly respected for their virtues. As she went down to her grave full of years, so, as it is confidently believed, she died full of well founded HOPE, and is now participating *riches* that will not *perish with the using*.—[Communicated.]

*Salem Gazette, Feb. 8, 1822.*

---

Hon. Nehemiah Cleaveland of Topsfield was elected a vice-president of the Essex Auxiliary Education Society on June 26, 1822.

*Salem Gazette, July 2, 1822.*





## AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITION

for the County of Essex, at Topsfield, on Wednesday, 2d of October, 1822. The Trustees of the *Essex Agricultural Society*, to encourage improvements in the Agriculture and Manufactures of the County, offer in premiums, for the present year, more than SIX HUNDRED DOLLARS. They have taken care to provide convenient accommodations and from the increasing interest manifested in the subject, they anticipate a more interesting Exhibition than in any preceding year.

*Rules to be observed at the Exhibition.*

I. All claims for premiums for Stock, must be entered with the Secretary, or Col. E. Wildes of Topsfield, on the day previous to the Exhibition. This regulation is indispensably necessary, that the business of the day may be conducted with order and without delay.

II. The Trustees have appointed Col. Jesse Putnam, Dr. R. A. Merriam, and Mr William Hubbard, Marshals, with authority under their direction, to superintend all the transactions of the day.

III. All Animals and articles intended for exhibition or premium, must be presented to the Officers of the Society, who will be in attendance to receive them, by eight o'clock in the morning, that there may be time to arrange all of them in their proper places, by nine, after which none will be admitted.

IV. The several Committees for examining Stock, Manufactures &c will meet together at the Hotel, at nine o'clock, and thence proceed immediately in the performance of their respective duties: at which time the owners or keepers of the animals or articles presented for premiums, must be present to give any information that may be required. Every person offering Stock, is requested to furnish the Secretary with a written description of the animal offered—the more minute, the more satisfactory.

V. The Ploughing Match will take place precisely at eleven o'clock. The Trial of Working Oxen will follow immediately after. A description of the kind of plough used, where and by whom made, &c. must be handed to the Committee by the claimants for premiums.



VI. At one o'clock, the members of the Society will dine together at the Topsfield Hotel. Tickets for the Dinner, at 50 cents each, may be obtained at the Bar. At two o'clock, the Reports of the Committees will be received and examined by the Trustees. At half past two o'clock, the members of the Society, will go in procession from the Hotel to the Meeting House, where an ADDRESS will be delivered by the Rev. Dr. Eaton, of Boxford. After this, the Reports of the Committees will be publicly communicated, and such other business transacted, as the interests of the Society may require.

VII. Gentlemen who have fine animals or any articles of extraordinary growth or quality, not intended to be offered for premiums, will gratify the Trustees by exhibiting them. Suitable accommodations will be provided for their reception: and should any such be exhibited, they will be noticed accordingly. An opportunity will be given to sell them if desired at Public Auction.

VIII. The statements of the Claimants of premiums for the management of a farm and for Agricultural experiments, must be delivered to the Secretary of this Society, previous to the 20th of November next: at which time they will be examined by the Committees. These statements must be made in writing, under oath of the owner, and in regard to products, be accompanied by the certificate of one or more disinterested persons, of the measure of the land, and the quantity of the produce. For the particulars necessary to be mentioned, reference is to be had to the pamphlet published by the Soc. in Jan. 1822.

IX. No person will be entitled to receive any of the premiums (excepting those offered for the encouragement of domestic industry) unless he be a member of the Society.

X. If any competitor for any of the Society's premiums shall be discovered to have used any disingenuous measures, by which the objects of the Society have been defeated, such person shall not only forfeit the premiums which may have been awarded to him, but shall be incapable of being ever after a competitor for any of the Society's premiums.





XI. In awarding premiums, it will be the duty of the Committees to give a preference to those claimants, whose mode of management in the present state of the agriculture of our County, is most worthy of imitation, and, with regard to all the subjects of premiums, it may be remarked, that as the object of the Institution is to promote valuable improvements the Trustees will feel it to be their duty to withhold premiums in all cases falling short of this object.

By order of the Trustees.

Sept. 5th 1822.

John W. Proctor, Sec'y.

*Salem Gazette, Sept. 6, 1822.*

---

#### ESSEX AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITION.

The Annual Exhibition of Cattle and Manufactures, for the county of Essex, was at Topsfield, on Wednesday, second instant. The day was favorable; the assemblage of people large and highly respectable. Among them we noticed Messrs. Derby and Parsons, delegates from the Board of Trustees of the State Society, the Hon. B. Pickman of Salem, and many persons of distinction from different parts of the Commonwealth.

The number of competitors for premiums was much less than in the last year; and the show of animals much inferior. The whole number of animals exhibited for premiums was about one hundred. Of these the fat oxen and bulls were of the first quality, and would well compare with any in the Commonwealth. The merino bucks and ewes were well worthy of premiums. The milch cows and swine were ordinary. The heifers and steers were handsome and worthy of premiums. It is to be regretted, that in a county possessing so many fine animals, so few of the inhabitants should have public spirit enough to bring them forward. The fear of not being considered first, operates to destroy all the advantages arising from competition.

*Salem Gazette, Oct. 4, 1822.*



Probate notice praying that William Munday of Topsfield, yeoman, be appointed administrator of the estate of William Munday, last an inhabitant of Salem, mariner, appears in the

*Salem Gazette, Oct. 4, 1822.*

---

HAVERHILL AND SALEM STAGE will in future run twice a week, and leave Salem every Tuesday and Saturday morning at 5 o'clock A. M. and arrive in Haverhill in time for passengers to take the stage for Concord, N. H. and arrive in Concord the same day—returning, leave Haverhill on Monday and Friday at 1 o'clock P. M. and arrive in Salem the same afternoon.

Ephraim Corliss, jun.

*Salem Gazette, May 27, 1823.*

---

### SALE THIS DAY.

The spacious and elegant HOTELS owned by the *Newburyport Turnpike Corporation*, situated in Topsfield and Lynnfield together with all the Lands connected with them, and all the Furniture belonging to each of the Houses. \* \* \* Also, about five acres of Land in Ipswich, near the toll gate kept by Mr. Brown. The Hotel in Topsfield, and the land in Ipswich, will be sold at 12 o'clock P. M. at said Hotel.  
\* \* \*

By order of the President and Directors,

*Salem Gazette, July 15, 1823.*

---

The Lynnfield and Topsfield Hotels, built at a great expense by the proprietors of the Newburyport turnpike, have been sold at auction; the former brought \$2550, and the latter \$3135.

*Salem Gazette, July 22, 1823.*





## ESSEX AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The Annual Meeting of the Essex Agricultural Society (agreeably to the Constitution, as amended in Feb. last), will be holden at the Hotel in Topsfield on Monday the sixth day of October next, at 11 o'clock A. M.

To choose the officers of the Society for the ensuing year.

To determine the time and place of the public exhibition in 1824.

And transact all such business as may regularly come before the Society. An Address will be delivered by a Member of the Society at 12 o'clock. There will be a meeting of the Board of Trustees at 9 o'clock A. M. of the same day, at which punctual attendance is requested,

J. W. Proctor, Sec.

*Salem Gazette, Sept. 12, 1823.*

---

THE HAVERHILL MAIL STAGE is removed from the Sun Tavern to the Essex Coffee House, from which place it will continue to start at 7 o'clock, A. M. and where parcels may be left and seats taken.

*Salem Gazette, Nov. 4, 1823.*

---

OLD LINE CONTINUED.—The Haverhill accommodation Stage continues to start from the *Sun Tavern*, every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, at 7 o'clock A. M. Returns Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, at 5 P. M. All business punctually attended to.

Joseph S. Leavitt, agent,

*Salem Gazette, Nov. 14, 1823.*

---

DIED:—On board the Federal George, at St. Jago de Cuba, Nov. 1, Daniel P. Balch of Topsfield.

*Salem Gazette, Dec. 19, 1823.*



A NEW LINE OF STAGES to Concord, N. H. direct, has commenced running from the Essex Coffee House, Salem, Mass., and will continue as follows: Leave Salem on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, at 7 o'clock A. M. and passing through Haverhill, Mass. &c. will arrive at Concord at 6, P. M. the same day, to meet the Plymouth, Hanover, and Haverhill (Coos) line of Stages. Returning, will leave Concord on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, at 4, A. M. and arrive at Salem at 5, P. M.

Books kept at Essex Coffee House, Salem, Kendall's Tavern, Haverhill, and at Stickney's, Concord, N. H.

DAVID BARTLETT, *Agent.*

*Salem Gazette, Jan. 2, 1824.*

---

Asahel Huntington, Esq. of Topsfield, has been admitted an Attorney of the Court of Common Pleas, now sitting at Ipswich.

*Salem Gazette, March 19, 1824.*

---

### TOPSFIELD HOTEL.

CYRUS CUMMINGS respectfully informs his friends and the public that he continues this spacious establishment. This Hotel is situated on a delightful and commanding eminence, on the Newburyport Turnpike, about 9 miles from Salem, is three stories high, has large and commodious rooms, and offers a most agreeable and healthy summer residence to invalids and others who are disposed to spend the summer months in the country. The bar is always supplied with the choicest liquors, and the table with the best provisions of the season. Parties of pleasure and others may depend on respectful attendance and every effort will be used to give perfect satisfaction to all who favor the establishment with their patronage.

*Salem Gazette, July 13, 1824.*





## ARRANGEMENTS.

*For the Agricultural Exhibition at Topsfield, on Tuesday, Oct. 26, 1824.*

1. All claims for premiums must be entered with the Secretary of the Society, on or before 9 o'clock, A. M. of the day of Exhibition. And each claimant will be expected to furnish a description in writing of the animal or article offered for premiums.

2. All animals and articles intended for exhibition or premium, must be presented to the officers of the Society, who will be in attendance to receive them, by 8 o'clock in the morning, that there may be time to arrange them in their proper places by nine, after which none will be admitted.

Gentlemen who have fine animals, or any articles of extraordinary growth or quality, will gratify the Trustees by exhibiting them. Suitable accommodations will be provided for their reception.

4. The several committees for examining stock &c. will meet together at the Hotel, at nine o'clock, A. M. and thence proceed immediately in the performance of their respective duties; At which time the owners or keepers of the animals or articles presented for premiums, must be present to give any information that may be required concerning them.

5. The ploughing match will commence precisely at 11 o'clock, convenient accommodations will be provided for 8 or 10 competitors; and more if necessary. Persons intending to enter the list for ploughing, are requested to give notice of their intention previous to the day of Exhibition. As *four* premiums are offered on this subject, it is hoped that the number of competitors will be large. The work must be done by one pair of oxen, without a driver.

6. The trial of working oxen will follow immediately after the ploughing, in such manner as the Committee shall direct. *Five* premiums are offered on this subject, amounting to *seventy* dollars.

7. If competitors for any of the Society's premiums shall be discovered to have used any disengenuous measures, by which the objects of the Society may have been defeated, the premium that may have been awarded, shall be withholden at the discretion of the Trustees.



8. All statements of claimants for premiums, not to be awarded on the day of the Exhibition but in the present year, must be handed to the Secretary previous to the 1st of December next.

9. At 2 o'clock the members of the Society will dine together. A procession will be formed of those having tickets for the dinner, which will be obtained of Mr Cyrus Cummins, by members only at 75 cents each.

10. At half past three 3 o'clock there will be a meeting of the Society, at the Meeting House, when the reports of the several committees will be read, and the usual business of the Annual Meeting transacted. At this time the report of the Committee appointed to fix on a permanent place of Exhibition, will be made to the Society.

11. The following gentlemen have been appointed Marshals on this occasion, viz:—Col. Jesse Putnam, Dr. R. A. Merriam, Maj. David Emery, Mr. William Hubbard, Mr. Ezra Batchelder, Capt. Gilbert Tapley.

By order of the Committee of Arrangements.  
John W. Proctor, Sec'y.

Topsfield, Sept. 13, 1824.

*Salem Gazette, Sept. 24, 1824.*

---

Rev. Rodney G. Dennis of Topsfield gave the Right hand of Fellowship at the ordination of several evangelists at the North meeting-house in Boxford, Sept. 30th, 1824.

*Salem Gazette, Oct. 5, 1824.*

---

### FARMER'S HOLIDAY.

The annual Cattle Show, Ploughing Match and Exhibition of Manufactures for the County of Essex, was holden at Topsfield on Tuesday last.

The assemblage of people was large. The first part of the day favorable, and the Show as a whole, creditable to the County. The exhibition of swine was the best we have ever seen. The number of working cattle and steers was large, and some of them were of the very best quality.





No premiums were offered for fat cattle. One pair of this description that were well fattened were placed in the pens for exhibition. The show of bulls and calves was good.

Of milch cows there was a deficiency, there being but one that merited a premium. There was a handsome display of articles of domestic manufacture especially as no premiums had been previously offered on this subject.

They were received with pleasure and noticed with attention by the Trustees; and suitable gratuities were awarded. We cannot speak in terms too high of the superior excellence of the grass bonnets manufactured by Miss Endicott and Mrs. Porter of Danvers, and of the beautiful specimen of woolen yarn presented by Miss Kinsman of Ipswich, equal in fineness to 340 knots to the pound. These would have commanded the first of premiums at the best of shows. Several pair of superior working oxen were exhibited by Messrs. Theodore Andrews of Ipswich, B. W. Crowninshield of Topsfield, Steven Abbot of Andover, Richard Heath of West Newbury, Billy Emerson of Topsfield, John Marsh of Danvers. Two likely pair of Steers were exhibited by Messrs. Asa Andrews of Ipswich, and Asa Tapley of Danvers.

We noticed in the pens a very fine bull of the Sandwich breed, belonging to James H. Duncan, Esq. of Haverhill, which would undoubtedly have obtained the first premium, had it not been excluded from premiums, by the rules of the Society;—not having been raised in the county or imported. Also two good bulls were exhibited by Moses Newell of W. Newbury, John Dodge of Wenham and Samuel Hood of Topsfield. Six cows were in the pens from the farm of Col. Jesse Putnam in Danvers, which have yielded milk sufficient since the first of May last to make 985 lbs. of good butter, and upwards of 1100 lbs. of cheese. They were not entered for premiums, but added much to the show.

On the whole, the Exhibition was such, as to afford much satisfaction to all who attended; and encouragement to the Farmers of Essex, that if they exert themselves, as well they may, and unite with one heart and one mind, disregarding all *local prejudices* their future Exhibition will well compare with those in the other parts of the State, in which so deep



an interest is excited, and from which so much benefit has already been derived.

*Salem Gazette, Oct. 29, 1824.*

---

DIED. In Topsfield, on the 5th instant, much lamented, Deacon Daniel Bixby, in his 74th year. Funeral this afternoon (Friday) at one o'clock, from his late dwelling house. Friends are invited to attend.

*Salem Gazette, Jan. 7, 1825.*

---

#### A FARM FOR SALE.

To be sold a FARM in Topsfield pleasantly situated about a mile and half from the meeting-house, and adjoining Ipswich river, containing about 80 acres of good Land with a House, barn and other buildings in good repair. If said farm is not sold at private sale before the 15th day of March next, it will on that day be sold at public Vendue at 10 o'clock before noon upon the premises. For further particulars inquire of Ezra Perkins, of Essex, or of John Perkins, jun. living upon said farm.

*Salem Gazette, Feb. 8, 1825.*

---

DIED. In Topsfield, on Wednesday last, Mrs Anna Perkins (mother of Thomas Perkins, Esq. of this town) after a long and useful life of 90 years, strong in the faith and hope of immortality.

*Salem Gazette, Feb. 15, 1825.*

---

DIED. In Topsfield, March 5th, Mrs. Elizabeth Gould, in her 95th year. She was the oldest daughter of the late Rev. John Emerson, and relict of Dea. Joseph Gould. For forty-five years she openly professed the religion of Christ, and in her death manifested hope of eternal life through the efficacy of his atonement.

*Salem Gazette, Mar. 15, 1825.*





**BY ORDER OF COURT.** Will be sold at Public Auction on the 2d June next, at 9 o'clock, A. M. So much of the Real Estate of Deacon DANIEL BIXBY, late of Topsfield, in the County of Essex, gentleman, deceased, testate, as shall be sufficient to raise the sum of seventeen hundred dollars for the payment of his just debts. Said Estate consists of about eight acres of salt marsh in Ipswich. Also, Hartland meadow so called, in Topsfield, consisting of about eight acres—several parcels of Pasture land in said Topsfield—and also a quantity of valuable and first quality oak SHIP TIMBER on land in Boxford and said Topsfield.

The sale of the timber will be on the land where the same now stands—the other parcels of Real Estate will be sold at the late dwelling house of the testator in Topsfield.

David Towne, Adm.

*Salem Gazette, May 10, 1825.*

---

**DIED.** In Topsfield, on the 16th instant, after a short illness, Capt. Ebenezer Peabody, aged 47. He has left a disconsolate widow and nine children to mourn his premature and sudden death. Capt. Peabody was an affectionate husband, a kind parent, a good neighbour, and an honest man; he lived respected and his death by all his friends and acquaintances is lamented.

*Salem Gazette, July 29, 1825.*

---

### ESSEX CATTLE SHOW.

The annual exhibition of Cattle and Manufactures, Ploughing Match, etc. of the Essex Agricultural Society, took place at Topsfield on Wednesday last. We have understood that the exhibition was very thinly attended and on the whole less important or interesting than at former years. Few animals were offered for premiums. \* \* \* The Society dined together at 2 o'clock, after which the officers of the Society were chosen, and the ordinary business was transacted. Some conversation arose on the question where the



next exhibition should be held—it appeared to be the prevailing opinion that it should be alternately at each section of the county, and it was generally conceded that the North part of the county was entitled to the benefit of the next exhibition. The question was finally submitted to the Trustees.

*Salem Gazette, Oct. 11, 1825.*

---

### A FARM FOR SALE.

To be sold at Auction on WEDNESDAY, the 26th day of January next at 12 o'clock, at noon, unless previously sold at private sale.

A FARM in Topsfield, containing about one hundred and ten acres of good land, with a good Dwelling House and Barn thereon. Said Farm is well watered and contains a suitable proportion of wood, tillage, mowing, orchard, and peat land. Also a lot of Salt Marsh, in Ipswich—being the same farm lately owned and occupied by John M'Kenzie. Sale will be on the premises.

JOHN REA, jun.

*Salem Gazette, Jan. 6, 1826.*

---

Mail regulations at Salem. Mails close at 9 P. M. Sundays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays, for Topsfield, New Rowley, W. Bradford, and Haverhill.

*Salem Gazette, May 2, 1826.*

---

I hereby forbid all persons trusting or giving credit to my wife BETSEY on my account, as I am determined not to pay any debts of her contracting after this date.

John MacKenzie.

Topsfield, June 14th, 1826.

*Salem Gazette, June 16, 1826.*





DIED. In Topsfield, Mr. John Putnam. He rose about 3 o'clock on Friday morning last, apparently in good health, to go to his usual labor, and had proceeded only to the door, when he fell backward and expired without a struggle.

*Salem Gazette, June 20, 1826.*

---

There will be a celebration at Topsfield this day and Rev. Mr. Hubbard of Middleton will deliver an oration.

*Salem Gazette, July 4, 1826.*

---

[Wood-cut of Coach and Four.]

The Haverhill Coach starts every Monday, Wednesday and Friday morning, at 6 o'clock. At New-Rowley it intersects with the Coach from Newburyport to Andover and Chelmsford, and at Haverhill communicates with the Concord, Hanover and Burlington line. Passengers and baggage can be forwarded to the manufacturing establishments at Chelmsford, and to all the principal towns in New-Hampshire. Apply at the office of the Salem and Boston Stage Coach Company, Union Street.

*Salem Gazette, July 21, 1826.*

---

DIED. In Topsfield on the 24 inst. Jacob Kimball, Esq. in the 66th year of his age. He was graduated at Harvard University in 1780. For many years he was a celebrated teacher and composer of music. He studied law with the late Judge Wetmore of Salem, and was admitted to the bar in Strafford County, N. H. in 1795. He was endowed with a fine native genius and had some talent at writing poetry, as appears by his version of the 66th Psalm, inserted in Dr. Belknap's Collection. He also made occasional contributions in prose and poetry to various periodical publications.  
—Communicated.

*Salem Gazette, Aug. 1, 1826.*



**HIGHWAYS.** The Commissioners of Highways for the County of Essex have received a petition for a new road in Boxford and Topsfield, from Oliver Peabody's house in Boxford, by the house of Doctor Sawyer, to Joseph Gould's corner in Topsfield. They have appointed the 20th November to view on the petition of Billy Emerson and others for a road from Topsfield Hotel to Burley's Farm in Beverly, a former order not having been complied with.

*Salem Gazette, Oct. 26, 1826.*

---

**FIVE DOLLARS REWARD.** LOST, on Saturday last, between Topsfield and Hampton, a small pocket WALLET, containing a sum of money and two jet Breast Pins, and having the owner's name written in it. The finder shall receive the above reward on leaving it at either of the Taverns in Topsfield, Newburyport, or Hampton, or at this office.

*Salem Gazette, Jan. 30, 1827.*

---

**A FARM FOR SALE.** The Subscriber offers for sale a FARM situated in Topsfield, on the road to Ipswich, being the same lately owned by Abraham Hobbs. Said Farm contains about 85 acres of excellent land, with good and convenient buildings; is well apportioned in mowing, tillage, pasturing and orcharding. The trees are young and in a high state of bearing, and the fruit is of the best kinds. Any person wishing to purchase is requested to call and examine on or before the 25th inst.—he will find the terms easy and very advantageous.

**MOSES WILDES.**

*Salem Gazette, Mar. 13, 1827.*

---

**HIGHWAYS.** At a meeting of the Commissioners of Highways for this County, held at Ipswich last week a petition was presented from Warren Porter and others, for widen-





ing and straightening the road from Topsfield meeting-house to Danvers Plain: to be viewed on Wednesday the 14th May—meeting at Topsfield Hotel. The Commissioners also appointed Monday, the 7th May, to locate the road now granted on the petition of Billy Emerson and others leading from Topsfield Hotel to near Wenham Causeway—meeting at said Hotel.

*Salem Gazette, Mar. 20, 1827.*

---

HIGHWAYS. The location of a short piece of road between Topsfield Hotel and Towne's Bridge, over Ipswich river, will afford great accommodation to the travel from Topsfield to Wenham, Beverly, Manchester and Gloucester.

*Salem Gazette, May 25, 1827.*

---

*From the Lowell Journal.*

---

The following is a fact and deserves public notice.

TOWN OF TOPSFIELD *versus* BENJAMIN FRANKLIN.

About eight years since, the more sober and inventive ones of this notable town of "steady habits," thinking that they were behind the age, in the style of church architecture, collected, *en masse* and with ruthless hand brought down from its elevated resting place, the weather cock which had faced the storms of half a century. The towering spire fell to the earth amidst the huzzas of the multitude and added another melancholy instance of the triumph of enthusiasm for innovation over the venerable works of generations gone by. The old church that was piously framed by the hands of the pilgrims, and which imaged their characteristic simplicity, assumed in a few weeks an entirely new appearance. The steeple was modernized, and instead of the gallant cock, that had seen the forest, above which he originally towered, fall away before the hand of improvement, was raised, on a less elevated spot, a gilded fish. A bell too sent out its unearth-



ly sounds of modern harmony, and it only remained to complete this specimen of human perfection by the addition of an *electrical conductor*. It was resolved, after various wise deliberations, to fashion this rod after the models of the innovating age—and accordingly they procured three *silver tipped points*, and presented them to the admiration of all concerned in this work of amelioration. But here their zeal became suddenly quenched, and as it was utterly impossible to excite the people to more than one united effort in the accomplishment of any purpose it was thought on the whole that there was no substantial reason for having a rod to connect the points with the earth, and the only obstacle to putting the finishing article to the edifice, was the want of courage to mount the fish. At this interesting crisis, the master-workman, the most aspiring man of their number, put his hand to this deed of daring. He was successful in his enterprise and placed securely upon the dorsal vertabræ of the fish these brilliant attracters of the fires of the heavens; and there they are, inviting the destruction they were originally intended to avert; and there they will be, until rifted by the lightning.

———the smouldering spire  
Stands, a sad shattered trunk, and stretched below  
A lifeless group, the beauteous maidens lie.

*Salem Gazette, July 24, 1827.*

MILITARY. Lieut. Joel R. Peabody has been elected Captain, Ensign Israel D. Elliot, Lieutenant, and Mr. Moses Wright, Ensign, of the Topsfield company of the line. The Company, on the occasion of the election, adopted the praiseworthy resolution to dispense with all spirituous liquors in their future trainings.

*Salem Gazette Sept. 28, 1827.*

STAGE NOTICE. Coaches for Topsfield, Boxford, Bradford, Haverhill, and the interior of New-Hampshire and Ver-





mont, every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, at 7 o'clock A. M. Apply at the Coach Office, in Union St.

Robert Manning, Agent.

*Salem Gazette, Jan. 18, 1828.*

---

BY ORDER OF PROBATE COURT. Will be sold at auction, on Monday the 7th day of April next, at one o'clock P. M. at the Meeting-house in Topsfield, all the real estate belonging to Jonas Merriam, late of said Topsfield, gentleman, deceased, for the payment of his just debts and incidental charges. Said Estate consists of three-eighths of Pew No. 3 in said Meeting-house.

Aaron Conant, Administrator.

*Salem Gazette, Mar. 11, 1828.*

---

### TOPSFIELD ACADEMY.

Topsfield Academy will be open for the reception of Pupils of both sexes, the *Seventh day of May next*, under the care of Mr. FRANCIS VOSE. Mr. Vose has been, for several years past, engaged in the business of instruction, and has fully established the character of an able, faithful, and successful Teacher. Miss Matilda Leavitt, a Lady every way qualified for the situation, is engaged to take charge of the Female department. Instruction will be given in all the branches of a thorough English and Classical education, to any desired extent. The strictest attention will be paid to the morals and manners of the pupils. Mr. Vose will have a general superintendence of the young Ladies.

Tuition \$4 per quarter. Drawing and the French Language will be taught in the Female apartment for an additional charge of \$2. Board in respectable families will be from \$1.50 to \$2 per week. There will be four terms, divided by three vacations of two weeks each.

Topsfield is situated 20 miles from Boston, 9 from Salem, 13 from Newburyport, and has long been distinguished for the salubrity of its air and the beauty of its scenery. The



building for the school is commodious and pleasantly located. Three stage coaches pass, daily, through this place between Boston, Salem and Newburyport. Also, one every day between Salem and Haverhill. Three mails are opened here every day.—Patronage is solicited.

By order of the Committee,

JEREMIAH STONE, *Secretary.*

*Topsfield, April 15th, 1828.*

*Salem Gazette, Apr. 18, 1828.*

---

DIED. In Topsfield, Mr. Charles Warren, aged 20. In the death of this young man an affectionate mother has been deprived of a kind and respectable son.

*Salem Gazette, Apr. 22, 1828.*

---

To the Honorable Board of County Commissioners, etc. The subscriber, an inhabitant of the Town of Topsfield, in said County, asks leave to state, that a way from the dwelling house of the subscriber to the Newburyport Turnpike road in said town is much needed, and that although the Selectmen of said town have laid out such way and reported the same to said town at a public meeting of the inhabitants thereof, yet the town has unreasonably delayed to approve and allow of the same, etc. He therefore prays the Commissioners to approve and lay out the road, etc.

ISRAEL REA.

*Salem Gazette, July 18, 1828.*

---

TOPSFIELD ACADEMY. The first quarter of this school closed on Tuesday last, July 29th. The examination of the scholars in the various branches which they had been pursuing commenced at eight o'clock in the morning, and occupied both parts of the day. The writer of this article was present, and is happy that he can entertain the feeling himself, and can assure the public, that the occasion was very





interesting. The school was evidently conducted according to system; and the system of government and instruction, chosen by the teachers, is evidently a wise one. In both departments there was prominently exhibited the first and greater excellence of the same or any other establishment, *good order*; and the proficiency made by the scholars in their studies, does credit to their instructors and themselves, and ought to afford special encouragement to the benefactors of the institution. There was a maturity of order and improvement very considerably in advance of the ages and past literary advantages of most of the scholars. The vacation will be three weeks, when the school will be resumed under the tuition of the same instructors, Mr. Francis Vose, and Miss Matilda Leavitt, persons of unblemished moral character, and of experience in the business of instructing. The local situation of Topsfield is uncommonly favorable of a school of this kind. It is central; its natural scenery is delightful; and its air salubrious. On the whole, those parents and benefactors of mankind, who may wish to give their children or friends the advantages of an academy, may feel it safe to place them at this school.

*Salem Gazette, Aug. 1, 1828.*

---

Commencement week at Dartmouth College. On Tuesday an oration was pronounced before the United Fraternity, by David Peabody, of Topsfield, Mass. Mr. Peabody, without disparagement to any of the others, may be said to have exhibited and reach and comprehension of mind, a harmony and elevation of diction, and a commanding elocution, which as few men of any age can equal, so none of his own standing can but admire and commend. The valedictory oration in English, upon Commencement Day, was also by David Peabody.

*Salem Gazette, Aug. 26, 1828.*

---

Inhabitants of Topsfield, through J. Towne, jr. contributed \$46.02, to the relief of the sufferers in Greece.

*Salem Gazette, Sept. 16, 1828.*



Mail regulations at the Salem Post Office. Mails arrive from Topsfield, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, at 6 P. M. Mails for Topsfield, close, at 6 A. M. on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.

*Salem Gazette, Sept. 16, 1828.*

---

The Directors of the Exeter Bank have recovered \$6,357.00 in specie, of the money lately stolen from their vault: it was found on the southerly side of the Newburyport turnpike about 1 1-2 miles north of the Topsfield hotel. The silver was contained in 16 bags which had been placed at the southerly end of a deep ditch in a field.

*Salem Gazette, Oct. 3, 1828.*

---

#### DR. NATHANIEL BRADSTREET.

Dr. Nathaniel Bradstreet at the time of his sudden and lamented death, was a Counsellor of the Massachusetts Medical Society, and a prominent member of the medical profession, to which he had from early youth devoted himself, and in which he had become distinguished for merit and usefulness.

He was born at Topsfield, Oct. 4, 1771, his father, a respectable but not opulent farmer, being enabled by industry and economy to bestow on his family an education above his own condition. The subject of this memoir is known to have been remembered in his native place as a youth of amiable manner and manly feelings, endowed with a decided taste for intellectual pursuits and a facility in making acquisitions in learning. He was fitted for college by Rev. Asahel Huntington, of Topsfield, and entered Dartmouth College in 1791; but after remaining at Hanover one year, he left that institution, honorably discharged and well recommended, for Cambridge, in order to obtain the more extended advantages for education which Harvard College furnished. He was graduated at Cambridge in 1795, having maintained there a highly reputable character as general scholar; and





pursued the study of medicine, first with Dr. James Thacher of Plymouth, and subsequently with the venerable Dr. E. A. Holyoke in Salem; and after completing his regular professional studies, entered on board the sloop of war Merrimac, Captain Moses Brown, in the autumn of 1798, as chief surgeon, having Dr. Shurtleff of Boston for his assistant. Dr. Bradstreet continued on board the Merrimac in this capacity from December, 1798, until February 1800; and surviving members of the ship's company bear honorable testimony to the assiduity, care, attention and skillful precaution wherewith he successfully discharged his official duties; acquiring by these means, a circle of friends in Newburyport and being thus lead to fix his residence here for the residue of his life. He resigned his commission in the Merrimac in February, 1800, Dr. Shurtleff succeeding him as chief surgeon, and within a few months commenced the practice of medicine in Newburyport, and early obtained a respectable share of professional business, being in full practice within a year or two after he began, and continued unremittingly engaged therein until a few days previous to his decease.

In the performance of the inobtrusive duties of his profession, he gained the confidence and attachment of a large number of friends, by whom his loss is deeply regretted. As a physician, he was distinguished for properties rather solid and useful than brilliant, being characterized by his judicious treatment of diseases, by his balanced good sense in the adaptation of proper means to the desired end, and by faithful, assiduous, unwearied attention to the welfare of those whose health and life were committed to his charge. He is well known to have taken the liveliest interest in the personal well being of his friends: a quality which was doubly beneficial to his profession; beneficial to himself, inasmuch as it invited and stimulated him to exert more diligence, and meditate more assiduously, for the recovery of the sick; and beneficial to the latter, inasmuch as it rendered them easy, tranquil, and confiding, so that any curative means applied to their case were the more certain to be fairly tried, without being counteracted by despondency and distrust in the patient. To his conscientious industry and laborious exertions in his profession he fell a victim; having



in this instance, as often before, prejudiced his own health by too unremitted attention to those who trusted in his skill, and this when he himself required immediate repose and medical aid.

Dr. Bradstreet's time was too much engrossed by his professional pursuits and by the cares of a family to leave him much leisure for studies not directly subsidiary to the great objects of his attention. But he was a respectable, classical scholar; and, although more attached to mathematical studies than to miscellaneous literature, yet is known by the writer of this notice to have relished perusing in the original, within a few years, the entire voluminous works of Cicero.

As a gentleman and member of society he was noted for the politeness and urbanity of his manners, for integrity, veracity, and plain dealing, for his liberal and Catholic sentiments on the subject of religion, and a faith testified in principle and practice rather than profession. Although possessed of keen sensibility to injury, yet in his general intercourse with society he was marked by great circumspection of language and deportment, manifesting that nice sense of honour which usually accompanies a lively and acute feeling of right and wrong. His premature death has occasioned a chasm in the circle of his acquaintance, which must long be felt; and to those immediately dependant upon him is a loss most truly and unaffectedly irreparable.

Some remarks having been made respecting the singularity of having a private funeral, for one so distinguished as the late and deeply lamented Dr. Bradstreet, perhaps it is proper to observe, that every thing was done exactly in accordance with his wishes, frequently expressed to the writer of this, while in good health. This was one among a thousand other marks of good sense, which strongly characterized the deceased,—and exclusive of his being an enemy to all parade and show on such occasions, he was very decidedly opposed to funeral processions as being injurious to health, a disturbance to families, and productive of no possible good.

*Newburyport Herald*, reprinted in  
*Salem Gazette*, Oct. 17, 1828.





REPUBLICAN CONVENTION. A large and respectable meeting of Delegates from the several towns in Essex County, convened by public notice at Topsfield, on Thursday, 16th inst. for the purpose of making arrangements for approaching Elections. [The Convention favored the election of Jackson and Calhoun and nominated Presidential electors, and representatives to Congress.]

*Salem Gazette, Oct. 21, 1828.*

---

TOPSFIELD ACADEMY. The next term of Topsfield Academy will commence on Monday, the first day of next month, under the tuition of Mr. Francis Vose, where all those branches which complete a finished English and Classical Education will be taught—Also French. Any information relative to said Academy may be had, by applications to Rev. R. G. Dennis, Topsfield, Solomon Wildes, Boston, or the subscriber.

JEREMIAH STONE. Sec'y.

*Salem Gazette, Nov. 11, 1828.*

---

DIED. In Boston, Col. Ephraim Wildes, aged 46, late proprietor of the eastern stage house.

*Salem Gazette, Feb. 6, 1829.*

---

In the death of COL. WILDES, whose demise we mentioned last week, his family has been deprived of a kind husband and father, the more immediate circle of his acquaintance of a beloved associate, and the community of an esteemed and valued citizen. His pursuits found him surrounded by strangers from all parts of New England who will cheerfully acknowledge his suavity of manners, obliging disposition, and unbending integrity of character. In all the relations of life he conducted himself with manly propriety, sustained himself with fortitude during a protracted and wasting sick-



ness, and with Christian resignation, committed his spirit to his Father and God, with the cheering hope of a blessed immortality.—*Boston Centinel*.

*Salem Gazette, Feb. 13, 1829.*

---

By invitation I attended, last week, a very interesting examination of the pupils of Topsfield Academy. This school has been for two years under the immediate direction of Francis Vose, A. M. assisted by Miss Ann Coffran.

The Academy building is on an elevated and most beautiful spot, a little retired from the public road. The building is perfectly and commodiously finished, in two principal apartments, upper and lower, with blinds to the whole house. The pupils, a little short of 50, exhibited to the entire satisfaction of a crowded house. Their exhibitions certainly reflected great credit upon themselves and their teachers. It was evident that now particular preparation had been made, no Sunday dress was put on for the occasion; but the garb which they then wore was one that they wore every day.—Although the examination was long and rapid, not a question was missed. I say not a single question. For if the individual pupil addressed gave a wrong answer, he was immediately corrected by some one of the school. In the afternoon the compositions of the females were read by Mr. Vose, and those of the males by their authors. They were such as would not have disgraced College years. One or two of them I shall endeavour to procure for the public eye; a piece of poetry particularly struck me as worthy of publication. The reading of their compositions, public speaking of the boys, two pieces of sacred music, and a short, pertinent and eloquent address by Mr. D. Peabody occupied the afternoon, and the exercises of the day were closed by prayer, by Rev. Mr. Dennis.

The ladies will expect me to say something of the labored decorations of the house. I say labored, because a part of these decorations were such as may hereafter decorate the parlours of their husbands. The walls were studded with drawings and paintings, the product of their own hands. The instructors were very much at home, neither of them





making use of a book during the whole examination, I think parents may feel safe with their children in such hands. It is impossible for anybody, lawyer, doctor, priest or judge, to witness such an examination without being more or less instructed as well as entertained.

Topsfield is a pleasant country village, and a pleasant distance from Salem and its vicinity, and other sea board towns of the county. The individuals who have so generously and judiciously located a school for our children of so high a character, claim, and are entitled to public patronage.

*Salem Gazette, Aug. 25, 1829.*

---

#### TOPSFIELD ACADEMY.

The Spring Term will commence on Wednesday, the 29th of April next. The female department will be resumed under the instruction of Miss Ann Coffran, who has been an *able, experienced and successful teacher in Pembroke Academy, N. H.* The male department will continue to be instructed by Mr. Francis Vose: who will also exercise a general supervision over the other. Their reputation is well known. The course of instruction will be similar to that pursued in Academies of the first respectability. *Particular attention will be given to persons who may wish to be qualified as teachers of schools.* The study of Philosophy and Astronomy, will be facilitated by the aid of lectures. The year will be divided into three terms, two of fifteen and one of fourteen weeks. Tuition \$16.00 a year, and in this proportion for one term. French, Drawing Maps, and the other Ornamental branches, will be an additional expense. Board in respectable families can be obtained on reasonable terms.

Reference may be made to Rev. Brown Emerson, Rev. John Brazer, S. C. Phillips, Esq. and John Dike, Salem—and Rev. Samuel Green, Boston.

By order of the Trustees,

JEREMIAH STONE, Sec'y.

*Salem Gazette, Mar. 13, 1829.*



## VITAL STATISTICS OF TOPSFIELD, MASS.

FOR THE YEAR 1906.

### BIRTHS.

1906:

- Jan. 29. Harriet Esther, dau. of Frederick Ensley and Harriet Ellen (Fuller) Watson.
- Mar. 9. Daniel Joseph, son of Daniel Joseph and Katherine Louise (Gibney) Kerrigan.
- May 6. John Joseph, son of John Joseph and Katherine (Donnelley) Goodwin.
- May 7. — Shyne, dau. of Albert and Hattie May (Hyland) Shyne.
- July 19. — Scavone, son of Francesco and Lucia (Le Caporae) Scavone.
- Aug. 10. Ruth Frances, dau. of Ormond Curtis and Elizabeth (Carnes) Taylor.
- Aug. 22. Francesco Ciriaeo, son of Angelo and Domenica (Rossi) Rossi.
- Sept. 17. Evelyn Wonson, dau. of John Robinson and Marion Elizabeth (Averill) Gould.
- Oct. 3. Marion Gertrude, dau. of Forrest Warren and Alice Lillian (Perkins) Rust.
- Oct. 5. Gladys Irene, dau. of Willie Albert and Grace Edith (Pierce) Fuller.
- Nov. 6. Harold Comer, son of Frank Lively and Mary Josephine (Comer) Gilliland.
- Dec. 18. William Truesdale, son of William Shelley and Edith May (MacCormack) Andrews.
- Dec. 19. — Luxton, son of Thomas James and Florence Anna (Pierce) Luxton.
- Dec. 31. — Walsh, son of William Henry and Margaret Lena (Cullinane) Walsh.





## MARRIAGES.

1906.		
June	6.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Raymond Richmond Root (Georgetown), son of Richmond B. and Sarah J. (Dalrymple) Root.</li> <li>Molly Winifred Perkins (Topsfield), dau. of Theron D. and Mary A. (Balch) Perkins.</li> </ul>
June	16.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dutton T. Hill (Topsfield), son of George T. and Sarah (Carty) Hill.</li> <li>Anna Hettstram (Topsfield), dau. of Patter and Anna (Bergkiest) Hettstram.</li> </ul>
Sept.	12.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hooper Reynolds Shaw (Marblehead), son of Thomas H. and Mary E. (Reynolds) Shaw.</li> <li>Agnes Gertrude Ferguson (Topsfield), dau. of E. Everett and Mary A. (Andrews) Ferguson.</li> </ul>
Sept.	19.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Henry Franklin Murray (Beverly), son of Thomas F. and Sarah D. (Kimball) Murray.</li> <li>Ruth Mabel Gould (Topsfield), dau. of Herbert W. and Laura A. (Conley) Gould.</li> </ul>
Sept.	19.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Arthur Chester Andrews (Topsfield), son of Joseph E. and Mary E. (Chapman) Andrews.</li> <li>Margaret Coca Monaghan (Topsfield), dau. of William and Mary (Conway) Monaghan.</li> </ul>
Oct.	10.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ammon Parker Richardson (Andover), son of Wesley and Lucy Ann (Russell) Richardson.</li> <li>Francene Augusta French (Andover), dau. of Gilbert and Mary (Adams) French.</li> </ul>
Oct.	24.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Edward Howard Gunnison (Boxford), son of Edward E. and Lydia (Deland) Gunnison.</li> <li>Mary Lizzie Chase (Boxford), dau. of Frank and Emma J. (Perley) Chase.</li> </ul>
Oct.	24.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Leroy Willard Gleason (Topsfield), son of George L. and Charlotte A. (Perkins) Gleason.</li> <li>Florence Ethel Morey (Haverhill), dau. of Thomas J. and Ellen M. (Jaques) Morey.</li> </ul>
Nov.	21.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>John Tierney (Topsfield), son of Thomas and Helen (Kelly) Tierney.</li> <li>Julia A. Donovan (Topsfield), dau. of Timothy and Helen (Donovan) Donovan.</li> </ul>
Dec.	25.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ross Irving Wells (Salem), son of Henry S. and Frances (Neff) Wells.</li> <li>Florence Mary Floyd (Topsfield), dau. of Charles W. and Emma A. (Jaynes) Floyd.</li> </ul>
Dec.	31	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Andrew S. Longfellow (Groveland), son of Nathan and Mary L. (Nutter) Longfellow.</li> <li>Grace Eveline Elliott (Groveland), dau. of James A. and Abby (Lake) Elliott.</li> </ul>



## DEATHS.

1906.

- Jan. 13. William Senia Bell, son of William S. and Jennie (Dias) Bell, aged 71 yrs. 9 mos. 13 dys.
- Feb. 26. Adelaide Louise, widow of Benj. C. Dodd, Jr., and dau. of John and Louisa S. (McKenzie) Boardman, aged 64 yrs. 5 mos. 17 dys.
- Mar. 1. Alice, dau. of Wilbur Fletcher and Nettie Mabel (Kneeland) Hood, aged 6 yrs. 7 mos.
- Mar. 4. John Rogers, son of Hazen R. and Mary E. (Deickhoff) Wildes, aged 1 yr. 8 mos.
- Mar. 13. Ellen Augusta, wife of William Welch and dau. of John Gould and Sarah (Brown) Hood, aged 66 yrs. 6 mos. 19 dys.
- Mar. 18. Mehitable Porter, wife of Dudley Bradstreet and dau. of Josiah and Sarah (Patch) Bradstreet, aged 75 yrs. 7 mos. 11 dys.
- Mar. 22. Charles Hobart, son of Charles Hobart and Mary E. (Collins) Lake, aged 2 mos. 21 dys.
- Mar. 22. Calvin Wilkins Fuller, son of Benj. and Esther (Wilkins) Fuller, aged 71 yrs. 11 dys.
- Apr. 15. Harriet Esther, dau. of Fred E. and Hattie E. (Fuller) Watson, aged 2 mos. 17 dys.
- Apr. 16. Mary S. widow of Ezra Batchelder and dau. of Tyler and Eunice (Goldsmith) Andrews, aged 82 yrs. 22 dys.
- Apr. 16. Charles Henry Frye, son of Isaac and Charlotte (Cook) Frye, aged 67 yrs. 2 mos. 1 day.
- May 6. Nathaniel M. Foss, son of Nathaniel and Annie (Ester) Foss, aged 63 yrs. 1 mo. 15 dys.
- May 7. — Shyne, dau. of Albert and Mary (Hyland) Shyne.
- May 13. Arthur W. Phillips, son of Timothy and Adaline (Gould) Phillips, aged 54 yrs. 8 mos.
- June 22. Alden P. Peabody, son of Ebenezer and Abigail (Perkins) Peabody, aged 61 yrs. 3 mos. 12 dys.
- July 4. Eliza J., widow of William Pierce, and dau. of Stephen and Lois (Thompson) Pierce, aged 83 yrs. 3 mos.
- July 21. Moses Bradstreet (in Danvers) son of William and Eunice (Perkins) Bradstreet, aged 72 yrs.
- Ang. 12. Retta, wife of James W. Jackman and dau. of Cynnes and Mary (Stevenson) Gallinger, aged 30 yrs. 3 mos.
- Aug. 30. William Webster Gallup, son of Wm. Porter and Sally Redding (Perkins) Gallup, aged 71 yrs. 5 mos. 3 dys.
- Sept. 26. Esther Mehitable, dau. of John and Louisa (Richards) Dwinell, aged 78 yrs. 20 dys.
- Oct. 2. Charles L. Trowbridge, son of Elisha and Margaret (Stimpson) Trowbridge, aged 69 yrs. 4 mo. 11 dys.
- Oct. 29. Isaac Newton Averill, son of Luke and Sally (Foster) Averill, aged 87 yrs. 2 mos. 22 dys.
- Nov. 15. Mary Ann, wife of Edward H. Ferguson and dau. of Lemuel Holt and Sally (Munday) Gould, aged 66 yrs. 11 mos. 7 dys.





## Deaths in other places, Interment in Topsfield.

1906.

- Jan. 24. Charles W. Hadley, died at Danvers, Mass., aged 45 yrs. 11 mos.  
 Jan. 31. John Averell Gould, died at Boston, Mass., aged 86 yrs. 10 mos.  
           25 dys.  
 Jan. 31. Erwin T. Phillips, died at Hamilton, Mass., aged 67 yrs. 6 mos.  
           19 dys.  
 Feb. 5. Lawrence T. Perley, died at Wakefield, Mass., aged 8 yrs. 2 mos.  
           15 dys.  
 Apr. 8. Jacob Foster, died at Somerville, Mass., aged 82 yrs. 5 mos. 18 dys.  
 May 9. George W. Donaldson, died at Salem, Mass., aged 57 yrs.  
 Sept. 8. Benjamin Poole, died at Boston, Mass., aged 88 yrs. 2 mos. 30 days.

## BUILDINGS CONSTRUCTED DURING THE YEAR 1906.

Willard Emery, Main street; stable raised and remodelled.

Mrs. Anna A. Clerk, Main street; dove-cote, 145 ft. long; wagon house formerly on the Pemberton-Jackman place moved and remodelled for a carpenter shop and office.

John H. Towne, Main street; house remodelled and addition built.

Edward H. Thayer, Main street; house and barn remodelled.

Mrs. John W. Perkins, Boston street; house and barn remodelled.

Clara Ellen Perkins, Boston street; addition to house.

Loring A Rust, Wenham street; new house.

Fred Smerage, North street; the Chapman house, Ipswich street, removed to North street and remodelled.

Richard Wheatland, Cross street; small house for use of children.

Fred Deering, North street; addition to barn.

Charles H. Leach, Main street; shed, formerly used as harness shop, taken down.

















